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Farm and Ranch REVIEW

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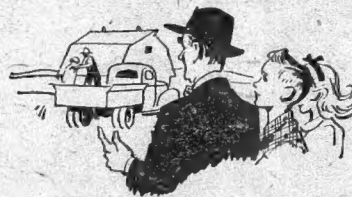


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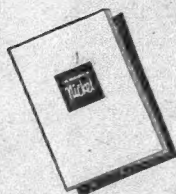


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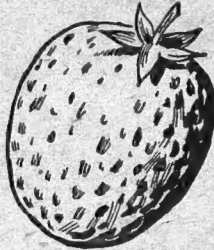


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The Farm and Ranch Review

Graphic Arts Bldg., Calgary, Alberta

Vol. XLIX

Founded in 1905 by Charles W. Peterson

No. 12

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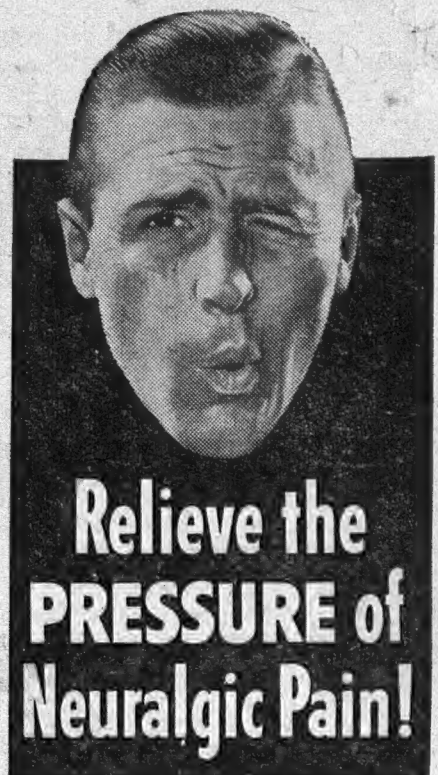
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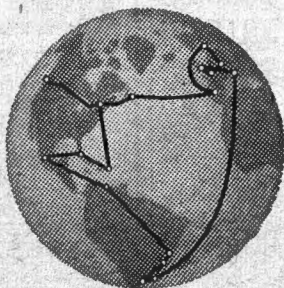
Spanning three great continents, the International Tour of the Seagram Collection is telling Canada's story of achievement as it never has been told before—interpreting our country to the peoples of other lands in the graphic idiom of a language always and universally understood.

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Hundreds of columns of newspaper comment and pictures, scores of radio and television broadcasts, newsreel films and animated public and private discussions all testify to rapidly mounting interest in Canada and friendly receptiveness towards all things Canadian. Already more than 60,000 persons have studied the paintings and carried home brochures reproducing the paintings of the twenty-two Canadian cities in full colour.

More important, these new foreign friends have carried away vivid personal impressions of Canada as a great and growing country—a land of tremendous natural and industrial resources and remarkable human resourcefulness.



The House of Seagram

The Farm and Ranch Editorial Page...

The educational scandal is worse than you think!

WHEN a scandal breaks in this country we expect it to explode in either of two ways: in speeches of men in public office or through revelation by newspapers. There is almost no record of a scandal being laid bare by a book. That was true until Dr. Hilda Neatby published her indictment of Canadian education in the new book, "So Little for the Mind".

It is a book which every Prairie farmer who has children in school should buy and read. More, it is a book which every school trustee and member of a provincial legislature should read until they fully appreciate how scandalously they have been taken in by the educational fifth-columnists.

The plain truth is that the socializers have captured the Canadian schools in all the western provinces and Ontario. Whether they are card-carrying Socialists or not is of no consequence. Their aims and objectives are clear, to turn out young people who will fit precisely into a socialist state. It has been the bending of every instrument of education to that end that has created the educational scandal of today.

What is the educational scandal? It is many sided. Its end product is an army of young Canadians graduates of our schools who cannot read or write or spell or do arithmetic, who are unequipped by training for life in a competitive economy, who don't know what they want of life, or how to go about achieving it.

That's one side. Another is the frustration that has made teaching our most barren profession. One has only to read the comments of the teachers in Dr. Neatby's book to understand the depths to which education has fallen in this country. Barred from imposing either physical or mental discipline, condemned to a life of futility in a maze of projects and time consuming nonsense, they surely deserve our sympathy.

This naturally is not equally true of all provinces, or of all school districts within each province. But no one can read Dr. Neatby's book without being impressed by the completeness with which our educational system has been overrun by the modern American theorizers.

Canadian education has been taken over, lock, stock and barrel by educational theorists to whom John Dewey, the American philosopher, was the prophet. Dewey was an able and energetic thinker and an intellectual socialist. He used the obvious defects

of our traditional educational system to stand the whole business on its head.

The faults of the old system were many. Discipline was perhaps too strict, perhaps too much emphasis was placed upon the storing up of factual material out of context. Pupils were forced to learn arithmetic, grammar, spelling, geography, history and literature from rather dismal text-books. They had to pass rigid examinations and those who failed had to take the course over again. So little imagination was shown that the effect of the lessons was often to destroy interest in the subjects, permanently.

Dewey reversed everything. From emphasis on learning it became emphasis on doing — "learning by doing". The formal teaching of the subjects was abandoned and in its place was instituted a system of "arousing interest" of the pupils by means of collective projects.

Dr. Neatby's book is based upon her collection and reading of a great mass of teaching manuals which are the Bibles of our modern school teaching. Throughout them all runs the thread of "arousing interest". It is the most important task the teacher has, to arouse interest in her pupils. She must never teach anything directly, she must waylay and trick them into the acquisition of knowledge.

And this trickery must be practiced always on a whole group. Great emphasis is placed on group planning, group activities, group problem solving. Backward pupils must not be flunked because this would reflect on the group and retard the natural blossoming of child personality.

It is small wonder then that time is wasted on outrageous stupidities. In Saskatchewan there are lessons on how to answer a telephone. All provinces favor endless paper chases where children are required to collect pictures relating to lessons. Subjects which could be taught in a few days or weeks are stretched out for years, until they are buried completely in masses of trivia.

To state plainly a simple fact, and force children to learn it, marks a teacher as a "traditionalist" who won't be welcomed in the profession. Thus, in her rating of pupils, she must overlook factual errors and concentrate on the attitude of the pupils. Are

they co-operative, are they interested? Old fashioned parents, who think their children must be learning something at school because they pass every year will be shocked by the disclosures in Dr. Neatby's book. The system is to pass everybody, the good, the bad and the indifferent.

Well, how did we get into this mess? Largely, we suspect, by infiltration, the way the Communists get into positions of power in society. The Dewey disciples got into the provincial educational departments. In no time at all, the main jobs were filled by other Deweyites. Today the infiltration has taken over the faculties of teacher training courses in colleges. Dr. Neatby, who is professor of history at the University of Saskatchewan, reserves her most trenchant criticisms for the texts used in the teacher training courses. If there is little for the mind in our public schools, there is even less for the mind in the teaching courses.

We will concede that this system, the collectivist approach to education, would be ideal for a collective system like Russia's, or one envisioned by Marx or Lenin or even by milder socialists like those in Canada. But if the aim of education is to provide young Canadians with a foundation upon which they can build a useful life with alert and lively minds with which to meet the challenge of the times, this system is alien to Canada.

How, then, does it happen that it was foisted upon us? Largely because the people who are primarily responsible, the members of our legislatures, were asleep at the switch. They were hornswoggled by the gobbledegook of the administrators who parroted catch-phrases like "we don't teach subjects, we teach children."

The legislators left the curriculum to the experts and concentrated only on the financial problems of education. The experts, the civil servants in provincial departments of education, are mainly responsible for the mess we are in. How little attention has been paid to education may be illustrated by this single fact (it is NOT in Dr. Neatby's book):

Some years ago one prairie province hired a certifiable mental case with a galaxy of bogus college degrees as deputy minister of education. A couple of years passed before the government discovered the swindle and fired the imposter!

No one who reads Dr. Neatby's book can help being convinced of the urgent need for action to get our educational system back on the rails. Her book comes at a very appropriate time. It comes when the parents of this country are stirring uneasily about the obvious failings of our school system. In Alberta, the teachers themselves are speaking out against the major lunacies. The time for a real house-cleaning is at

(Continued on page 6)

❧ A Merry Christmas to All ❧

Farm and Ranch Editorials

Bring foreign policy down from the clouds

ELSEWHERE in this issue our readers will find a condensation of the submission to the U.S. tariff board by Mr. George McIvor on the proposal to bar Canadian oats from the American market. It is the sort of able presentation western farmers have come to expect from Mr. McIvor.

What surprised us about the brief, as we believe it will surprise most Farm and Ranch readers was Mr. McIvor's statement that Canada imports more food from the United States than the U.S. imports from Canada. Mr. McIvor mentioned this in the process of arguing that the United States should recognize the facts of life of trade with Canada. To all of what Mr. McIvor said so well, we may well add — "Amen".

But it seems to us that this fact about food trade should be drilled home at Ottawa, too, so that we can devise a more realistic approach to trade problems with the United States. In order to safeguard our interests we have got to widen our methods of dealing with the Americans. Our contacts with the Americans are at too high a level. The Canadian ambassador talks to the State department and vice-versa. That isn't at the level at which policy is made. American policy is made in Congress where sectional, regional and economic interests often collide head on.

(Continued from page 5)

hand. To bring it about will need pressure on the trustees and legislatures by an aroused citizenry.

Dr. Neatby has quoted chapter and verse in her indictment. It provides us with all the factual ammunition we need to force a house-cleaning of our departments of education. We've had enough of their nonsense, their pseudo-psychology, their double-talk. It is time for the people to insist upon the adoption of a useful educational system in which there is something for the minds of young Canadians.

In saying all this, we are not urging a return completely to the traditional system of 30 or 40 years ago.

Fundamental Needs

Its errors were obvious and important. Nor should all of Dewey's theories be completely discarded. There is much in them that can still be useful. As Dr. Neatby points out, Dr. Dewey would quickly repudiate many of the crimes committed in his name. But of this we are certain: We must retrace our steps to a point where a hard core of fundamental subjects are made an imperative part of the curriculum. We must restore discipline to our class rooms, and bring back the element of competition so that our young people will be prepared for entry into the competitive society in which we live.

Meanwhile, we have a constructive suggestion to offer. When you start shopping for Christmas, put a copy of Dr. Neatby's book on your list. (It costs \$3.) Send it to your school trustee after you've read it yourself, or to your member of the legislature. No book published in Canada in many a year deserves a wider reading.

Obviously, in such collisions innocent by-standers can get badly mangled. In the American system, national interests are very often made subservient to parochial interests. When the corn growers get excited about imports of Canadian oats, they never consider the fact that by importing Canadian oats the United States is enabling Canada to import Florida and California fruit, Texas vegetables and Louisiana and Mississippi vegetable oils and cotton.

Now, surely the logical way for Canada to safeguard her interests is by making certain that the Congressmen, from the States that have profitable markets in Canada, are aware of the fact. It should be somebody's responsibility to get acquainted with the representatives from all these areas and acquaint them with the facts. What they do with the material will be their decision. But we have a feeling that the Congressmen from these areas would be just as concerned to protect the interest of their constituents as the Corn Belt Congressmen are to protect theirs.

Ottawa's unofficial reaction to this proposal was that it might lead to charges that we were meddling with the internal affairs of the United States. We see no validity to this objection. It comes from the state of mind which works harder to find excuses for not doing something than it would to actually do the job. The fact remains that unless we undertake some such educational campaign, we can hope for no aid from the State department. It, like our own external affairs department, can only talk of lofty generalities. Congress deals with actual cases, with realities that are important back home.

In a real sense, the difficulties we are in are the natural result of entrusting diplomatic negotiations to career diplomats. They are experts on how diplomacy works from the inside, but are completely without experience in the outside world. Our problems with the United States are practical. They will never be solved by negotiations at the diplomatic level.

And it is right here that we think our External Affairs department could do with a change in emphasis. It is concerned, as it should be, with the affairs of the United Nations and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. But too much of its top level thinking is concerned only with that. Devising means by which the world may be saved from a third World War is important. Our relations with the United States are also important. It is becoming increasingly apparent to all Canadians that these relations are getting roughed up, that merely passing notes back and forth between ambassadors is not enough. Our guess is that things will get worse before they get better.

If that is so, then surely some serious attempt should be directed to methods of pursuing policies by other means. We have suggested one. It may not be effective. But at worst is far better than sitting back and doing nothing constructive to make some

friends for Canada where friendship counts most — inside the American Congress.

★

A good appointment

IN the appointment of Mr. Earl Robertson to the position of assistant commissioner of the Canadian Wheat Board, the government has indeed acted wisely.

The Wheat Board is one of the biggest businesses in Canada, ranking right up with the railways in both its importance to the welfare of Canada and in the complexity of its operation. So it is vitally important to its successful operation that it be served by men of the highest technical competence. Mr. Robertson's ability is well known throughout the grain trade and the Board was fortunate in obtaining his services.

He is, as well, the nephew of John I. McFarland, the father of the modern Wheat Board. The farmers of Western Canada have a special place reserved in their hearts for Mr. McFarland who, more than any other Canadian, laid the foundation on which the present Board was built. He combined an all-inclusive knowledge of the grain business with a deep concern for the interests of the farmers and certain knowledge of how these interests could best be served. We have no doubt that Mr. Robertson will serve the interests of prairie farmers not only with competence but with the distinction we would expect from a nephew of John I. McFarland.

★

Savings are not profits

AS this was written, our Prairie Wheat Pools were concluding their annual meetings. As usual, they all enjoyed splendid years both financially and in the volume of grain handled.

Unfortunately, and this is an old complaint with us, when the reports of these meetings get into the press and onto the radio the emphasis always seems to be on the "profits" earned by the Pools.

None of the Pools earns a profit. The surplus that is left over at the end of each year's operation belongs to the pool members and is distributed to those members as patronage dividends. Unlike the private companies, which are in business only to make profits, the Pools exist to provide service for their members. Earning a surplus or a profit is only an accidental minor incident in their operation.

There are some who don't worry too much about what the yearly balance of the Wheat Pools is called. They like the idea of a large balance because it will make a nice talking point when patronage dividends are paid out. However, there is another side to the story. Because these savings over the years came to be identified as profits, it was easy for special interests to distort the picture and, through persistent pressure, force legislation subjecting the Pools to taxation similar to that paid by corporations. So we insist that a name is important when it comes to describing the savings made for members by all co-operatives. They are not profits and we should stop referring to them as profits.

Let's Keep Our Christmas Merry

By BERYL RASMUSSEN

CHRISTMAS should be a time of gay and happy times, with happy memories being relived each year of the happy holiday's spent in the years gone by. For too many people, however, it is a time when they are reminded by the very things which make up our Christmas, of some unfortunate accident which took a loved one or caused a tragedy which will forever live in their minds. There are few of us, who haven't read each year of the catastrophes which have spoiled Christmas for some people, and whether it touched us personally or not, it was a grim reminder that Christmas might not be a gay and festive time, if we don't practice special care so that Christmas will go down as a happy memory.

I know a woman whose children are never allowed to have a Christmas tree in their home, because of a tragedy which happened long before they were born, in which the woman lost her brother and sister, through the candles on the tree igniting the tree itself. One can't erase those unhappy memories, but there are ways in these modern days in which a Christmas tree can be made flame-proof, from the tree itself to all its trimmings and still lose none of its beauty.

It takes a little time and effort but when one considers that it might save some one's life it is well worth the time. First begin with the tree, take a freshly cut tree and saw a cut up the centre for six inches, then set it in a solution of sulphate of ammonia. You need one-fourth of the weight of the tree in sulphate ammonia, so weigh your tree, and divide by four to see how many pounds you will have to buy.

This is a cheap chemical which you might have on hand, if not the cost is nominal. To make the solution, use one and one-half pints of warm water for each pound of the chemical. When this is cold it is ready to use. Set the tree in a cool, dark place with its stem well immersed in the solution for a week and your tree is flame-proof. It has lost none of its beauty, in fact it is a little darker in color.

Candles are rarely found on Christmas trees today. Instead they are used more and more for table tapers where they are constantly under observation. Many are now made into attractive shape—angles, Santas, bells, reindeer, and are used as though they were figurines. No matter how awe inspiring a candle light is, never forget that it is an open flame and should be treated as such. They are safer to look at along with artistic trimmings than to use. Colored electric lights are safe as long as the wiring is checked

each year, and it is much better when you are going to invest in a set of these lights to buy the best you can afford, because the wiring is much heavier and safer in the better ones. When plastic was still in its infancy, Christmas-tree lights with plastic colored wiring caused a serious blaze in one of our western cities, and these were immediately taken off the market, and the plastic industry took steps to make their decorations fire-proof.

Metal, glass and asbestos decorations are in every way as effective as the easily ignited paper, cotton and celluloid. Santa Claus whiskers have caused many a Christmas tragedy, but even good old Santa Claus can have a flame-proof costume. Simply dip his costume in a clear solution of boracic acid and borax mixed in equal proportions.

Don't forget those extra ash trays for those friends who will be dropping in, and if someone is smoking near the tree you can suggest another corner of the room without showing discourtesy. A blazing hearth adds greatly to the Christmas atmosphere provided its safely placed behind a fire screen. Yule logs have a way of showering sparks for some distance, and it only needs one spark to start a blaze.

It is a tragic fact that many fatal fires occur during the otherwise happy period extending from a few days before Christmas to a few weeks after New Year. A few years ago an entire town in the States was plunged into chaos when a Christmas tree took fire in one family's home. The fire spread through blocks of homes and business buildings, driving scores of families out onto the streets on Christmas Day.

Let us have fun at Christmas—safely for fire prevention should be as much a part of your Christmas planning as plum puddings and mince pies. Let us keep Christmas a happy day, a day of happy memories instead of a sorrowful anniversary.



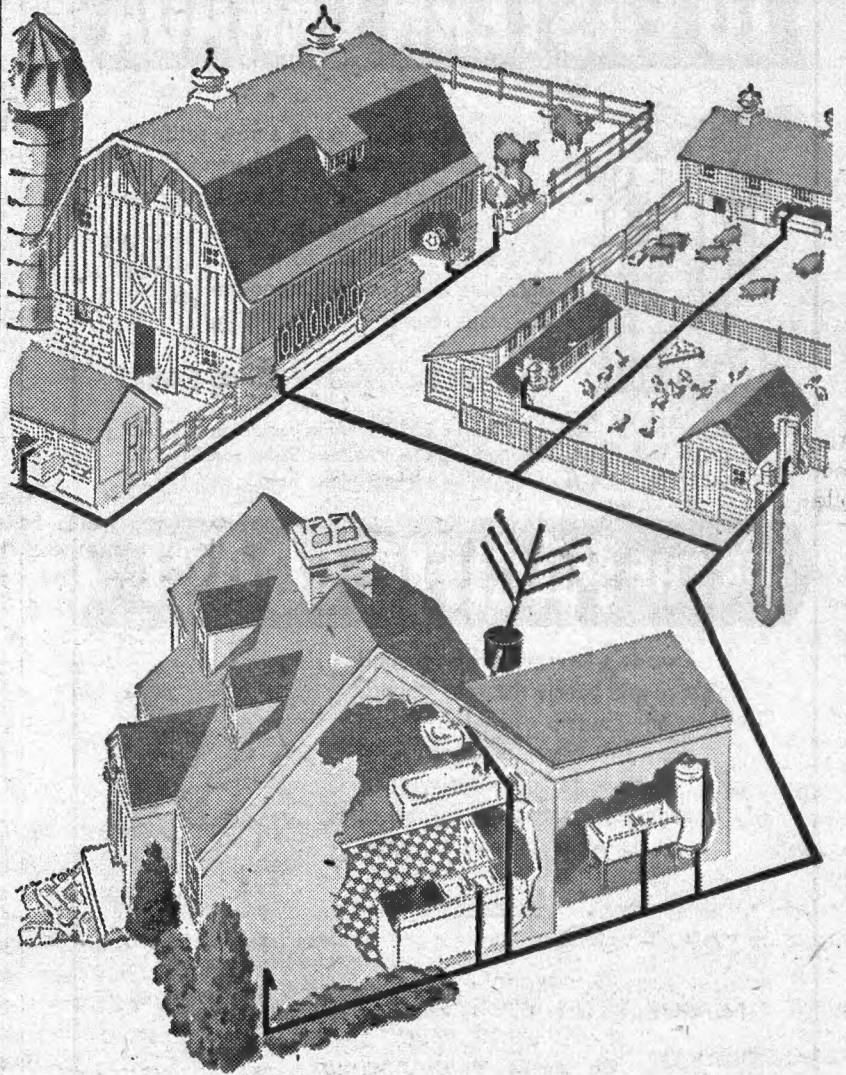
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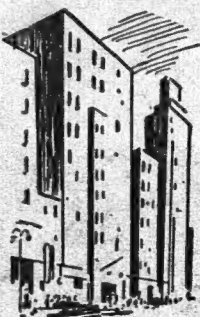
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GEORGE H. McIVOR

Chief Commissioner The Canadian Wheat Board
to the

United States Tariff Commission

I RECALL the crisis which the United States faced in respect to grains in the middle of World War II, and as a result of the co-operation between The Canadian Wheat Board and officials of the United States Government, it was possible for Canada to contribute to your cereal supplies 267.7 million bushels of wheat, oats and barley in the crop year 1943-44, and 147.5 million bushels in the crop year 1944-45. It was only through intensive co-operation between our two countries that these supplies of Canadian grains were made available to you from our reserves at a time when transportation facilities were overloaded and grain supplies were inadequate at a critical stage in the last war.

I am also reminded of the work of the International Emergency Food Council which was established at the end of the war to make sure that available supplies of grain and other food products were distributed to meet the most urgent of needs. It was my privilege to be Chairman of the Cereals Committee of the International Emergency Food Council which had its headquarters in Washington, D.C. In meeting the post-war food problem, the supplies of Canada and the United States were of decisive importance. The detailed and practical co-operation of our two countries in the post-war years went a long way in meeting the most urgent of post-war food problems as they developed throughout the world.

I cite these matters to give some background of the relationships which have existed over the years between Canada and the United States in matters pertaining to grain. There are hazards in the production of grain in both the United States and Canada, and the picture changes from year to year and even from month to month. On balance, I suggest that on important occasions reserves of grain in Canada have been very useful to the United States, and I am not at all sure that in the days ahead, such reserves of feed grains as we have, may not be useful to the United States.

I would like to pose this problem. Is not Western Canada a logical and strategic place in which reserve stocks of grain should be produced for the United States? After all, the United States is a large country with a very large food requirement. Your agriculture is diversified and livestock production is most important. If through the curtailment of markets for our feed grains our farmers have to reduce their production of these

grains, where are your reserves in times of national need?

I do not think it is wise for you to regard Western Canada as a source of reserve supplies which you can turn on and off like a tap. Our farmers like your farmers produce for the market, and if their markets are suddenly diminished they have no alternative but to reduce their production or go into other lines of production.

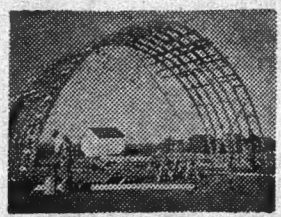
The Tariff Commission of the United States has been asked to investigate the question of whether the importation of oats has been injurious to and has adversely affected the farm programme of the United States. I would hazard a guess that this is one of the most important, if not the most important reference which has been made to this Commission in a long time, and I am here today because the question which you are called upon to judge is of vital importance to Canada.

It appears to us that the problem you are investigating may not be one which can be dealt with in terms of an over-all advantage to the agricultural industry of the United States. It is essentially a question which involves disadvantages for some areas in the United States as against perhaps short-run advantages for other regions. It will be difficult for you to ascertain whether advantages outweigh disadvantages and whether there is a net gain to agriculture in the United States in the restraint of the movement of Canadian oats into the United States. Surely in a matter which involves United States trade with Canada, decision should not be taken if there is any doubt as to the over-all results which will follow.

Under the price structure which we have had in Canada since the war, our oats and barley compete with, but do not exclude United States corn in the concentrated feeding market in Eastern Canada. During the past five years Canada has imported about 40 million bushels of United States corn principally for feeding purposes. Surely this is evidence that price levels for Canadian feed grains, including oats, have not been destructive. It is not the desire of Canada that this practical relationship between Canadian prices for feedstuffs and American prices for feedstuffs should be disturbed or that for reason of changed price relationships, the use of United States corn in the eastern Canadian feed grain market should be unduly limited.

It may be argued that Canadian-American trade in oats has been increasing. We would like to observe that this is not an exceptional factor as far as international trade goes. The rise and fall in the volume of exports and imports of individual commodities, depending upon conditions of supply and conditions of demand, is a characteristic of international trade.

In Canada we have had rising imports of American products in recent years. There has been a phenomenal



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increase in Canadian imports of vegetables from the United States and it would be surprising if this item did not continue to increase because it is based upon efficient production in the United States and advances in the transportation and distribution of perishable products.

Canadian imports of raw cotton and cotton products from the United States are running at a very high level and amount to well over \$100,000,000 per year. Canadian imports of citrus and other fruits from the United States are at a high level and are increasing. In our opinion, the importation of oats into the United States conforms to the general pattern of Canada-United States trade and has its counterpart in the present level of Canadian imports of significant United States agricultural products.

I would like to draw to your attention some of the repercussions that will inevitably follow the restricting of imports of Canadian oats into the United States. At the present time grain producers in the Prairie Provinces of Canada are devoting about 8 million acres of grain land to the production of oats. About half of our annual production of oats in years of average or better yields is consumed on farms where grown, and the other half is marketed commercially. Of commercial marketings, a part is consumed in deficit areas in Canada and a part is exported, principally to the United States. If the United States market for Canadian oats is restricted, there will have to be a readjustment of grain acreages in Western Canada.

This means a larger acreage devoted to wheat. In the case of wheat, over 80% of our annual production is competing with wheat supplies from the United States and other exporting countries in the markets of the world. We do not favor in Canada an over-concentration in the production of wheat. We prefer a diversification in our grain production and a more moderate approach to world markets on the basis of our principal crop. We believe that this is of interest not only to Canada but to the United States and other exporting countries and to wheat producers everywhere.

Again I suggest, is there a net gain to agriculture in the United States in lessening domestic competition in respect to one particular grain and thereby forcing greater competition in export markets in respect to a more important grain? I hope that in dealing with your reference you will consider the effects of your decision upon the pattern of farm production in Canada, and its relation to the much larger farm programme which you have in respect to wheat.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I would like to approach the reference before you on somewhat broader grounds. Surely your ability to carry out the farm programmes which you have in the United States is affected by the general trade of our two countries.

I do not need to stress the importance of foreign trade to both our countries — the question of our foreign trade is one of the decisive factors in determining the wellbeing of both our economies. In 1952, total trade between Canada and the United States amounted to \$5,312,000,000. This trade was made up of \$2,978,000,000 in Canadian imports from the United States, and \$2,349,000,000 in Canadian exports to the United States. In 1952, Canada bought \$629,000,000 more of goods in the United States than we sold to the United States.

In other words, we not only spent in the United States the dollars

which we earned in the United States through our exports, but we recruited an extra \$629,000,000 which we applied to purchase in your market. Although the Canadian exchange situation remains sound, the dollar deficits of our purchasing in the United States over and above our sales to the United States, constitutes an element of strain in the Canadian economy and is a trade factor which cannot be pushed too far.

With the general trade structure which I have described, trade between Canada and the United States in agricultural products plays an important part. In 1952 Canada imported United States agricultural products with a value of \$381,000,000 as compared with sales of Canadian agricultural products to the United States of \$348,000,000.

Every dollar which we earned in the export of agricultural products to the United States in 1952 was more than matched in the purchase of agricultural products, there is a net advantage which accrues to the United States. Under these circumstances we would not like to see any development, the end result of which is to reduce our dollar earnings in the United States, and at the same time make it more difficult for Canada to import not only your industrial goods but cotton, corn, the citrus and other fresh and processed fruits and fresh vegetables of many kinds. I submit that the impact of Canadian buying in the proportions I have described is a constructive factor in relation to United States prices for both industrial and agricultural commodities, and makes it easier for you to carry out your agricultural programmes.

As you know, trade in all commodities between Canada and the United States is governed by the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs subscribed to by our countries. Pursuant to this arrangement, tariff schedules have been filed by each country with the other, and each country has received benefits under the existing trade arrangements. If under the trade arrangement between Canada and the United States, the United States affords a market for Canadian oats and other products, we in turn have given the United States practical access to the Canadian market for a very wide range of products.

The statistics which I have cited indicate the practical nature of the over-all trade arrangement in effect between Canada and the United States, and we submit it is not within the spirit and the meaning of our trade arrangement with the United States that individual products should be singled out either by Canada or the United States for special restrictive treatment.

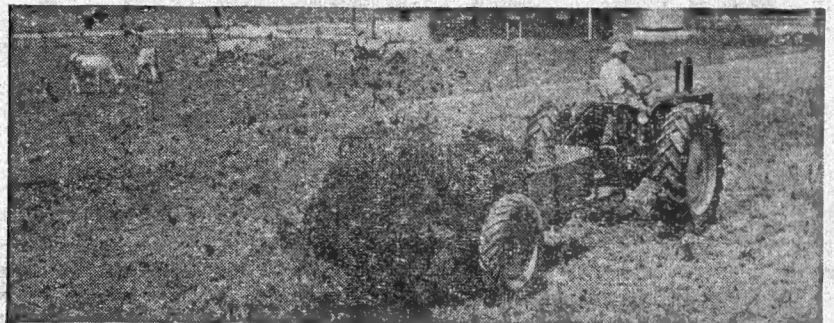
In this brief presentation I have tried to advance some Canadian views in respect to the matter you have under consideration. I hope you will regard these views as a friendly expression of opinion from the Canadian side of the border. After all, United States trade returns for 1952 show that Canada is your best customer. Your exports to Canada in 1952 amounted to 2.7 billion dollars. This figure was four times your exports to your second largest customer, which was the United Kingdom. Under these circumstances, I know you will appreciate the feelings of Canadians that their viewpoint should be expressed in connection with a matter which concerns a trade item which we regard as important and significant.

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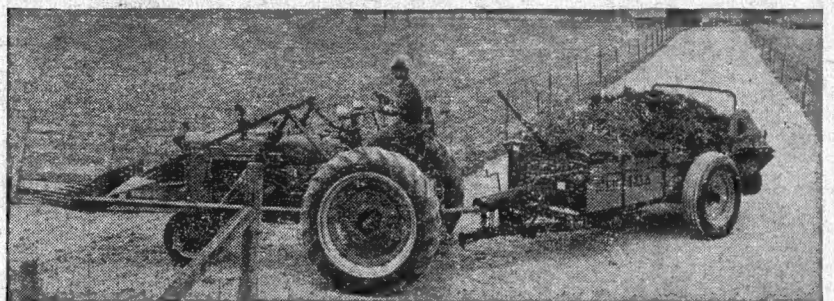
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Eskimo House-builder

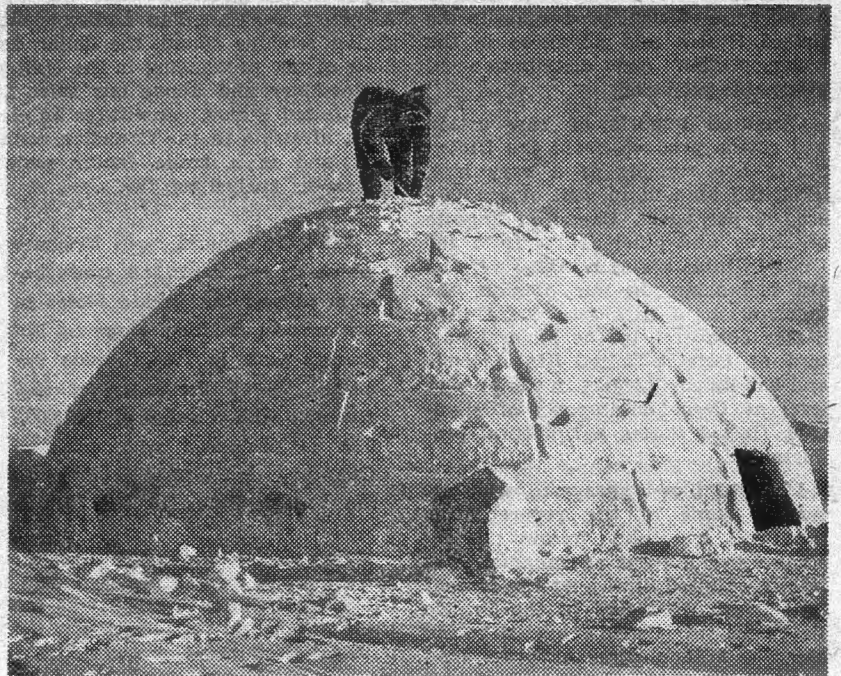


Photo by Richard Harrington.

"Twelve-Foot" Davis
never locked his cabin door

By GRANT MacEWAN

WHEN I arrived at the town of Peace River earlier this season, friends enquired considerably about what I wanted to see. My reply was instantaneous, the grave site of "Twelve-Foot" Davis.

And so, we climbed a trail that took us to a hill-top, almost a thousand feet above the town, where we saw the grave, the stone and the panorama of Canadian scenery such as no normal person is likely to forget. Next day I went back to see and enjoy it again, to look down upon the great expanse of river-water, islands and rugged country and to read the indistinct inscription on the stone which is moulded like a poplar stump:

"H. F. Davis
born in Vermont
1820

Died at Slave Lake
1893

Pathfinder, Pioneer, Miner and
Trader.

He was every man's friend
And never locked his cabin door".

The inscription is in error in as much as Davis did not die until the turn of the century, but that is unimportant at this point. What is most important is that "Twelve-Foot" Davis, by his great and kindly spirit has become a legend across the Canadian North and that his bones repose at a spot which was close to his heart, a spot at which he delighted to stand and feast upon the magnificence created by the mighty Peace with Smoky discharging into it not so far away.

But what's the story about this character of the North? Was "Twelve-Foot" Davis such a big fellow?

No, Davis was not a big fellow; in fact, he was a short man but stoutly built and one who didn't mind carrying a two-hundred-pound load over the portages back in those early trading years when he brought his trade goods from Soda Creek on the Fraser River to Dunvegan or other point on the Peace River in Alberta.

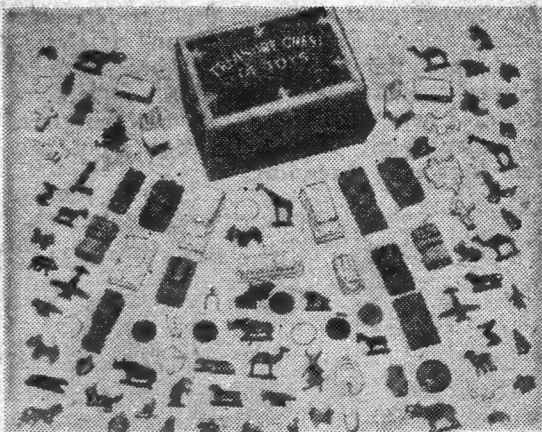
As a young man, Davis was a "Forty-niner"; he was one of those hardy people who crossed the continent to search for gold in California in 1849. What his fortunes were in that part, nobody knows, but when the gold rush on to the upper Fraser River in the British Columbia Interior in the late '50's and early '60's, Davis trekked northward and was at Barkerville during its peak.

Twelve-Foot Claims

As he surveyed the claims on Williams Creek, there in the Cariboo, he was making some mental calculations. He figured that two of the pioneer claims had been staked incorrectly and exceeded the size as registered. A tape measure confirmed his hunch and he filed on a 12-foot strip close to discovery claim. It was a runt-sized claim but it was profitable and it is told that he took \$20,000 worth of gold from it. Thereafter, he was "Twelve-Foot" Davis.

Davis sold his mine and might have remained a rich man. But there were others who wanted money or needed it more than Davis and his burden of wealth was quickly diminished. He took to trading and the farther north and north-east he went, the greater the volume of business. His freight was finally making the difficult trip up the Fraser,

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over the height of land, into the Parsnip River and down the Peace to Dunvegan or farther. Each cargo of furs went out by freight canoe over the same route.

To go from Dunvegan to Soda Creek with a cargo of furs, it usually required two-months and the return with trade goods would occupy just as long. In later years, Davis used Edmonton as his trading base and would make at least one trip per year to that point.

As the years passed, Davis became one of the best known and most highly respected figures in the North. In his later years he might have retired amid greater comfort farther south but it was his choice to remain amid the north country scenes and people he loved. And if he loved them, the people with whom he did business certainly loved him. Honest dealing and kindness were inherent in the Davis character and other traders and competing companies found it difficult to conduct business when he was about.

Kept No Books

Trappers would turn their furs over to him and willingly agree to wait until the trade goods came in, perhaps months later, to take settlement. Davis kept no books, but his memory never failed him. Today's traveller in the North may hear about the Indian who left some beaver skins with Davis and died before getting settlement. Some ten years later, so the story goes, when the Indian's son came to trade, Davis said, "Before your father died, he left some beaver skins; I'll pay you now".

At the Davis cabin there was always a cache of food, some flour, some bacon, some pemican and tea, for whoever might come that way. There would be some extra blankets and an open door whether the owner was present or not. He was known to leave the home camp on one of his many trips into fur country with less than a safe amount of food for his own use, in order that sufficient supplies were left behind to accommodate any hungry and weary travellers who might stop by during the trader's absence.

In his advanced years, somebody enquired if he could explain why he was so rich in friends. Davis was uneducated and would never win a prize in grammar. But he was a bit of a philosopher nevertheless and his reply on this occasion was, "I dunno; maybe it's because fellers all needs smiles and they all needs grub and I keeps a good stock of both. And so I just smiles at 'em and feeds 'em".

It was good, practical psychology and strongly suggestive of what resources in food and good will can do in winning friends

for either an individual or a nation.

And just prior to his death, a lady from one of the northern missions asked him if he was afraid to die. "No, mam", he replied, "I'm not afraid. I never killed nobody, never stole from nobody, never hurt nobody intentional and I always kept open house for men who were tired or hungry. No, mam, I'm not afraid to die." Davis couldn't read and couldn't write, but he had qualities of heart that were more impressive than scholarship, especially on the northern frontier.

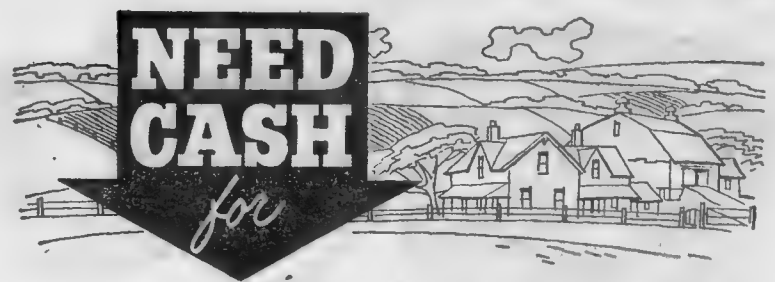
He died at Grouard on Lesser Slave Lake and was buried there. But his friend, J. K. Cornwall, had once heard him confess that he would like to be buried at that scenic point high above Peace River Crossing. Jim Cornwall, who like Davis, knew and loved the North as few others of his generation, having started a trading post at Lake Saskatoon in the Peace River country in 1898, resolved that the Davis wish would be carried out. Some years passed but Cornwall made the necessary arrangements, moved the remains, and designed and ordered the stone that marks the new and never-to-be-forgotten grave site.

"Twelve-Foot" Davis was not a homesteader or farmer, but he was a pioneer in the newest section of Canada's agricultural empire and he foretold agricultural development many years before the first settlers drove north from Edmonton or Edson to cultivate Peace River soil.

In his latter years, Davis was blind. But that handicap did not prevent him from seeing with his mind's eye; he could see his old home in Boston; he could see the grandeur of the Peace River from his favorite look-out above the "Crossing"; yes, and he could see developments in that section of the North of which he was so much a part. In that big area, still isolated and unsettled for years after his death, he could see, with prophetic vision, settlers flocking in to cultivate and make the good northern soil more productive; he could see homes, schools, churches, roads, fields of grain and pastures stocked with cattle where only fur-bearing animals had ranged before.

"Twelve-Foot" Davis might be illiterate, but his hunches were good ones and he said he was sorry he couldn't live to see the day when Canadians would discover the goodness of Peace River country and that it is a good place to live.

Best of all, as those who climb the hill are reminded, "He was every man's friend and never locked his cabin door". It is to be hoped the stone bearing that inscription and sermon will stand to repeat the message for thousands of years.

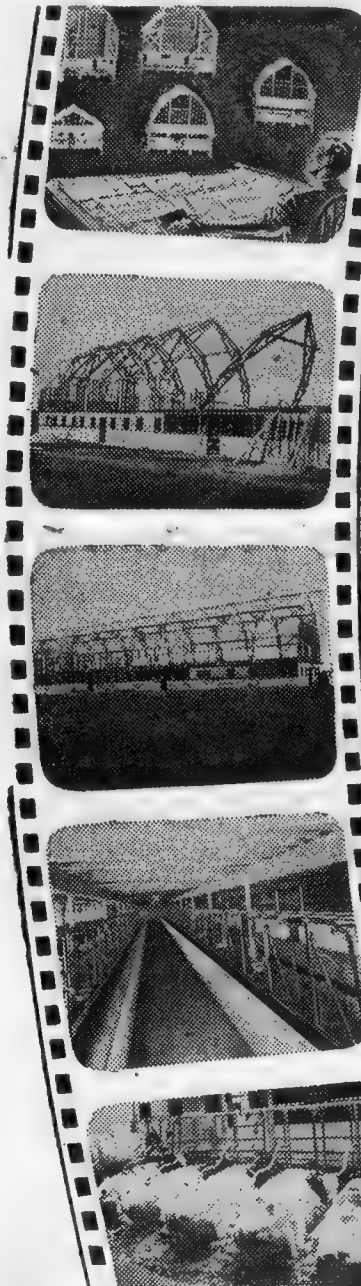


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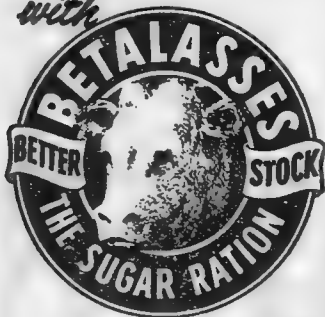
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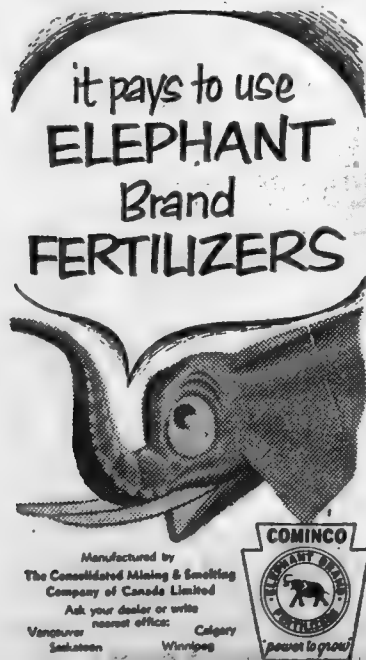
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Eskimo Snowman



Photo by Richard Harrington.

Plan now to add interest to your garden next year

By H. F. HARP

DURING the winter months when outdoor gardening activities are suspended, time will be found to plan additional features to the home grounds.

Rock gardens, pools and ornamental fences will provide interest and enjoyment throughout the summer months and designs may be sketched out at leisure now.

Rock Gardens

There is a notably increased interest in Rock Gardens these days, and no form of plant life is more intriguing than these miniatures of the plant kingdom that are so anxious to show their happy faces to us as soon as spring comes. To establish a Rock Garden that is natural in appearance requires something more than stones and soil. Skill is needed to place each rock in a perfectly natural position. At best we can only hope to imitate a natural outcropping of rock. Every stone should be part of the whole.

A few general rules to follow are. First, never place stones on their edges; never use pieces of cement; never use pebbly or rounded stones. The best possible material is weathered limestone. Often, good stones may be found in prairie pastures or along the road allowances. A

mound of stones and soil can be an ugly thing and not at all suitable for growing rock plants.

The aim should be a low, spreading series of rocks with plenty of room for plants to roam between them.

The area selected for a rock garden site should be slightly raised ground well removed from trees and tall shrubs. If a grass area is to be made over into a Rock Garden, the sod should be lifted and buried deep as the area is spaded over. Perennial weeds such as dandelions and quack-grass must be forked out or they will cause trouble if allowed to grow among the rocks.

Suitable plants may be obtained from prairie nurserymen and it is recommended to purchase plants locally whenever possible rather than send to firms in the milder sections of the country.

All rock plants must have good drainage or their winter survival will not be assured. Sedums, houseleeks and other succulents do best on poor, gravelly soils in full sun. Bell-flowers, Gentians, Perennial Candytuft, and many others will be found satisfactory. Phlox subulata may be had in shades of pink and blue as well

as pure white. After the bloom has faded a general clean-up should be given, cutting off spent flowers and in some instances when plants are making rampant growth they should be cut back. Before winter sets in a covering of spruce boughs or other material should be spread over the whole area to hold snow. There is nothing so comforting to alpine plants as a good snow cover.

Garden Pools

The site for a garden pool should be a naturally low spot, if possible, and situated near to the dwelling house. Having decided the location of the pool, an outline of its shape is made by driving a row of stakes around the edge. It may be oblong or round to suit individual taste, but must be in proportion to the size of the property. For small gardens a pool having a water surface of about twenty-five square feet will be adequate.

A simple method of construction is outlined as follows: Mark the outline of the pool with a double row of stakes nine inches apart. The soil between the stakes is dug out to a depth of two and a half feet. A narrow spade is used so that the trench is not made wider than 9 inches. If care is taken in removing the soil the walls will be fairly smooth. Concrete is made by mixing four parts clean gravel with 1 part cement. The trench is lined with building paper and the concrete filled in to the ground level. Several days later when the walls are set the inside is dug out level with the bottom of the wall. The floor can then be put in to a depth of six inches using the same concrete mixture. When the whole is dry, a finishing coat is trowelled on using 1 part cement to two parts finely screened gravel.

Ornamental Fences

Shade is welcome in summertime and can be provided by erecting a pergola or ornamental fence. Native Grape, Honeysuckle, Bittersweet and Clematis will all be found suitable for growing on ornamental fences. Native Grape has handsome foliage, sweet-scented flowers and useful fruits. Native Honeysuckle is showy in flower and fruit. Bittersweet has bright orange-scarlet fruits, useful for winter bouquets. There are several Clematis hardy and showy. The fence itself may be six feet high or taller, depending on the purpose it will be used for. A low fence of three feet or so may form a division between vegetable and flower garden, or a taller one might well be used as a screen or background for perennial plants. Oak posts make excellent supports; in fact, a fence made entirely of oak not only looks well but will be found more durable than other woods. The butts of the

posts should be treated with creosote or other wood preservative before being set in the ground. Various designs can be found from time to time in garden magazines.

As there are no Climbing Roses sufficiently hardy in prairie gardens, tall growing shrub roses such as Prairie Youth and Altarca will be found useful substitutes. They both look very well when grown against an ornamental fence.

Seasonal Hints

The past summer was excessively wet in some parts of the prairies with the result that soil-borne diseases were more troublesome than usual. As a consequence root crops are not keeping at all well. There have been reports of carrots being severely attacked by rot as soon as the roots were placed in storage. There is little one can do besides picking over the crop from time to time and throwing out all diseased roots. Clean sand should be used when repacking the disease-free specimens. Parsnips will be found to dry out more rapidly than other root crops, so the sand or peat in which they have been packed away should be kept quite moist.

Onions are best stored in a dry atmosphere when the temperature can be held at 40°. If the roots are properly ripened, and good storage is maintained, the crop will keep in good condition until spring.

Dahlias—The Dahlias should be packed away in peat or sand made fairly moist. Care should be taken not to damage the "neck" portion of the tubers for it is only from this portion of the plant that new shoots will appear next year. Most of the failures in storage are due to high temperatures and dry atmosphere. A 40° to 45° temperature should be maintained and the storage media should be moistened as required.

Gladioli — The Corms will now be sufficiently dry to allow the old corms and roots to be removed together with the loose skins. Treat the cleaned corms with DDT as a deterrent to thrips. A teaspoonful is sufficient for a hundred bulbs.

There have been several enquiries lately about Gladioli cormels; how to store them over winter and how to grow them on into flowering-sized bulbs.

The cormels should be removed when the corms are cleaned, putting them into small bags to be stored with the large corms.

They are best planted in cold frames in early May, after they have been soaked in water over night to soften the outside shell. The cormels are planted in rows, six inches apart, and kept watered in periods of dry weather. They are lifted again in the fall, sorted into sizes, stored as previously advised to be planted again the following

year. Some will bloom the second year, and the remainder will flower the year following. They will be exact replicas of the parent corm.

Tuberous Begonias — The bulbs of tuberous Begonias may be stored in the pots in which the bulbs flowered or they can be shaken out and stored in peat or sand. A cool basement will be found suitable where the temperature keeps around 45°. Temperatures lower than 45°, especially if the storage is too moist will often cause rotting of the bulbs. If plants are wanted for summer flowering the bulbs are started

into growth in February or early March.

Gloxinias — These bulbs are subject to a dry rot if storage conditions are too cool. Not lower than 50° is recommended.

Cannas — These handsome, showy plants will be found to keep well in a cool basement if packed away in moistened peat and sand: a half-and-half mixture should be used. They should not be allowed to dry out or severe shrivelling of the fleshy roots will result. Once or twice during the winter months the stored plants should be looked over and the peat mixture moistened if needed.

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Wheat and Butterfat

By TOM LEACH

IF you have grain stacked up on the farm and can find no way to turn it into cash then a regular monthly cream check might look pretty good. Right now it would appear that the greenest of all farm pastures is located at the coast where dairy farmers are receiving the highest price for fluid milk that is paid in Canada.

Before the government in B.C. removed the controls on retail milk prices in those areas which came under the jurisdiction of the milk board they waited for the decision of the three-member body on the proposed action. Before the board would give a decision they arranged a public hearing to provide the consumers, the producers and any other interested parties, an opportunity to present opinions on the question of making a free-for-all of the milk business once the producer was paid a set price for fluid milk.

There was a lot of noise made about the deal. But above all the din there seemed to be one sound which made it appear that the farmer was really on the road to happiness. It was the repeated statement that the farmer would not lose one cent. His price, no matter what milk might sell for in the stores, on the street, or delivered and put in the ice-box of the consumer, must remain at \$5.03 per can of milk with a 3.5% butterfat content if he delivered the milk to a lower mainland dairy. If he paid the higher costs of feed and production acknowledged by the Board to prevail on Vancouver Island then he was to receive \$5.90 per can. The paying price to the farmer for his milk was repeated so often that we lost sight of one important detail. Not all of the farmers' milk is sold to the fluid market, and controls on all other dairy products have been non-existent. The 38% of the milk and cream produced on the farms and put into bottles for the householder was the only portion of the output from the dairy herds that concerned the government, the processors, the labor unions, or the consumers. But the entire milk production from his cows means something to the farmer.

If he could sell only a little more than one-third of the milk from his farm on the fluid market then he wanted to know what he might do with the rest. As far as the Milk Board in B.C. is concerned he may do what he wishes with the balance, but they definitely state that he can neither sell it to another dairy, nor can he bottle that surplus and sell it. He can feed it on the farm or if he can persuade his dairy plant to take it off his hands he may sell it to them at not less than 80% of the price he obtains for his fluid milk.

That puts the price a little high for producing cheese or butter. It brings 3.5% butterfat milk into the plant at a price of just over \$4.00 per can. And the question may also be asked, what will the farmer do if his dairy plant does not want his surplus milk at that price?

Of course before the farmer has any surplus he must establish a contract with his milk dealer. Regulations set forth by the B.C. Milk Board in its order require that every licensed primary producer must have a basic quota before the 15th of February, 1954. That quota will be calculated on the shipments received by the milk dealer or his co-operative during the three months of lowest production within the six-month determined by the Board.

The Board may decide that the lowest milk production period was for the three months of August, September, and December. If this happens to be the case then the farmer will have his quota for the whole milk market set according to his shipments made in those three months. The dealer or the co-operative will make the allotment and if the producer accepts then the Board considers a contract has been completed.

Under this contract the producer is obliged to ship his milk to the dealer but he is not obliged to ship any milk over and above his quota. However, if the dealer requires more milk than his total basic quotas allow then the Board may give an increase in the quota to all shippers. On the other hand if a farmer fails to provide his basic quota, if he ships only two cans when his quota calls for five cans, the difference may be equally divided among other producers.

If, (and there are many ifs in the regulations) the farmer should run into trouble with his herd, he can not obtain milk from a neighbor who has more milk than his quota allows him to ship to the whole market. The neighbors' production can not be used to make up his quota because all the milk a producer ships must come from his own herd.

Quota committees have been formed. Each distributor who buys milk from the farmer and retails milk to stores or to the consumer names a member to a quota committee. All of the producers who ship milk to that distributor will appoint a member to the committee and the Board will appoint a chairman or convenor.

The committees will check all quotas and if larger quotas are needed they will find sources of supply or if a quota is reduced because some producer has retired from farming

or is foreclosed by creditors, they will be in a position to allocate his quota to new producers. That is an important point for any prospective dairy farmer or for anyone who wishes to leave his wheat farm for a west coast dairy farm, to keep in mind.

There is good reason for the regulation which would prevent anyone from moving into the coast district and buying up a dairy farm and continuing to supply a distributor on the previous owner's quota. For one thing, if the consumption of milk should increase to the point where all of the milk goes into fluid channels, then the returns from a dairy farm will so far exceed that of any other farm venture that farm land would accelerate in value so fast that we would have a real-estate boom on our hands.

There is a more valid reason than that for this regulation. It eliminates the chance that quotas might become a valuable asset and we might run into the spectacle of a farm selling for \$15,000.00 and the milk quota for \$20,000.00. So the order gives the committees the power to provide new quotas for new producers and to take away quotas where they are no longer needed so long as final approval is received from the Board.

That section of the new order from the B.C. Milk Board keeps everything fair and square among the producers. It was generally understood that the new regulations would do little more than that except to guarantee the producer a fair price for all his production "which went into the fluid trade". As far as the dealer was concerned it was generally understood that he would have a free hand except for the minimum control required to see that he paid the regulated price to the producer. He must do much more to satisfy the new order.

Four sections of the order describe his responsibilities to the Board respecting his records, payments, book-keeping, and reports to the Board on his method of doing business. They wind-up with the final



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exhortation that "Every milk dealer and producer-distributor shall, on or before the 20th day of each month, furnish the Board with a true and detailed report of purchases and sales of milk, milk products and creams during the month immediately preceding; such report to be in such form as the Board may from time to time prescribe." There is a surplus amount of milk being produced in the Fraser Valley. Some of that milk is finding its way to Vancouver Island where it is competing with the production from herds maintained under more

difficult farm conditions. Some of the milk is being processed into powder or evaporated milk and the co-operative which has been handling most of the surplus has been able to do so by pooling the price received from fluid milk and processed surplus and returning the dairy farmers

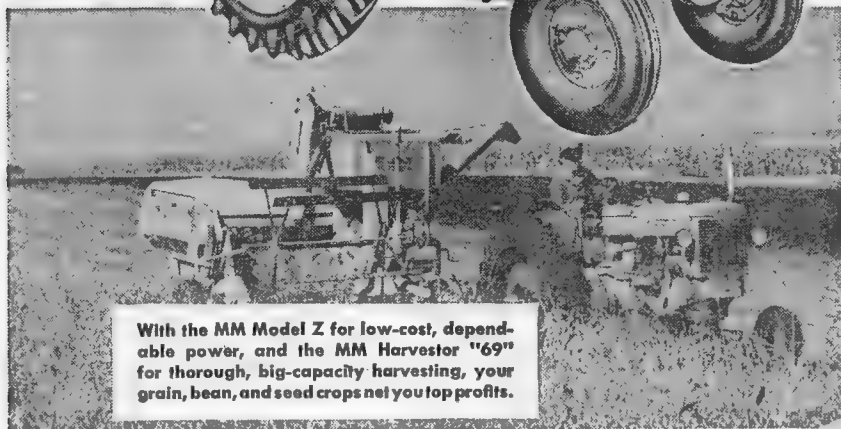
a satisfactory overall price. There can be no pooling of price now. What the outcome of this new plan may be and how it will effect production and sales is still to be seen. Of one thing alone are they certain: unsold milk can't be stored on the farm.

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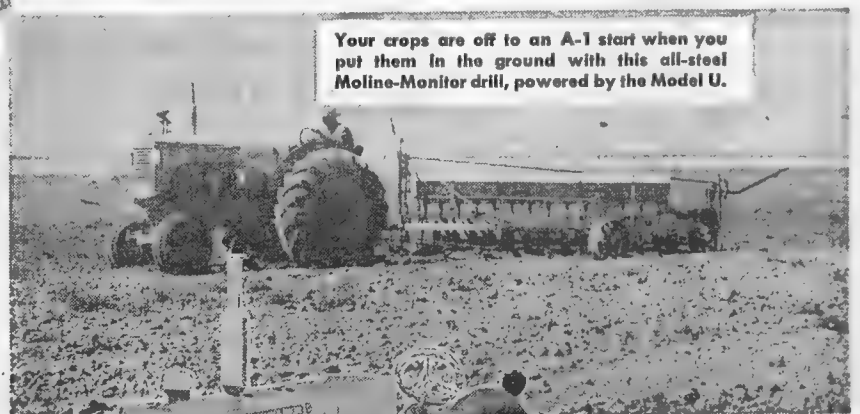


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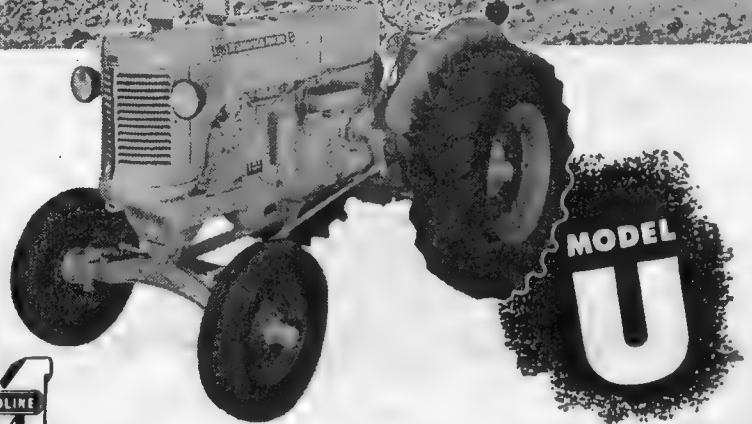
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Are Canada-U.S. relations going from bad to worse?

By BEN MALKIN

DURING the past two or three years, friction between Canada and the United States has become evident at a number of points. U.S. trade restrictions, the St. Lawrence Seaway issue, and Washington's failure to consult with Ottawa before making decisions binding on both countries, have all been contributing causes. Last month, President Eisenhower's visit to Ottawa did little to salve old wounds, while new ones were opened by the case of Harry Dexter White, who was alleged to have been a Communist spy while assistant secretary of the U.S. Treasury and, later, an official of the International Monetary Fund.

In his speech to both houses of Parliament, President Eisenhower laid great stress on the need for joint defences in Canada's north — an issue which was settled long ago, and a defence policy to which most Canadians agree. There was little interest in this part of the speech, although the President laid so much stress on its importance.

His references to the St. Lawrence Seaway and to trade were of much greater interest, and also created greater disappointment. On the St. Lawrence Seaway he said that a joint enterprise was desirable. But Canada has been after a joint enterprise since the end of World War I, and having found the U.S. Congress immovable, has decided to go it alone. As soon as it is possible to start on the power project — which, it is hoped, Ontario and New York State will share — Canada wants to proceed with the seaway. To get the question re-opened in Congress, as President Eisenhower evidently suggested, might result in further interminable delays.

No Leadership

President Eisenhower said he favored wider trade, but that he would have to go slow. There didn't seem much leadership here. Mr. Eisenhower has always been in favor of broader trade, and said so as far back as his inauguration address. The question is, will Mr. Eisenhower fight for this principle, even to the extent of making enemies in his own party? There was no indication in his Ottawa speech that he was prepared to do so, and here again, the reaction was one of disappointment.

In the White case, a letter written in 1946 by Mr. Hoover, head of the Federal Bureau of investigation, and bringing in a Canadian angle, was made public. The letter had been written to American government officials, and said that the FBI had received a warning from a "high official" of the Canadian gov-

ernment that White was a Communist. The warning also said that White might be made director of the International Monetary Fund on the recommendation of the Canadian and British governments.

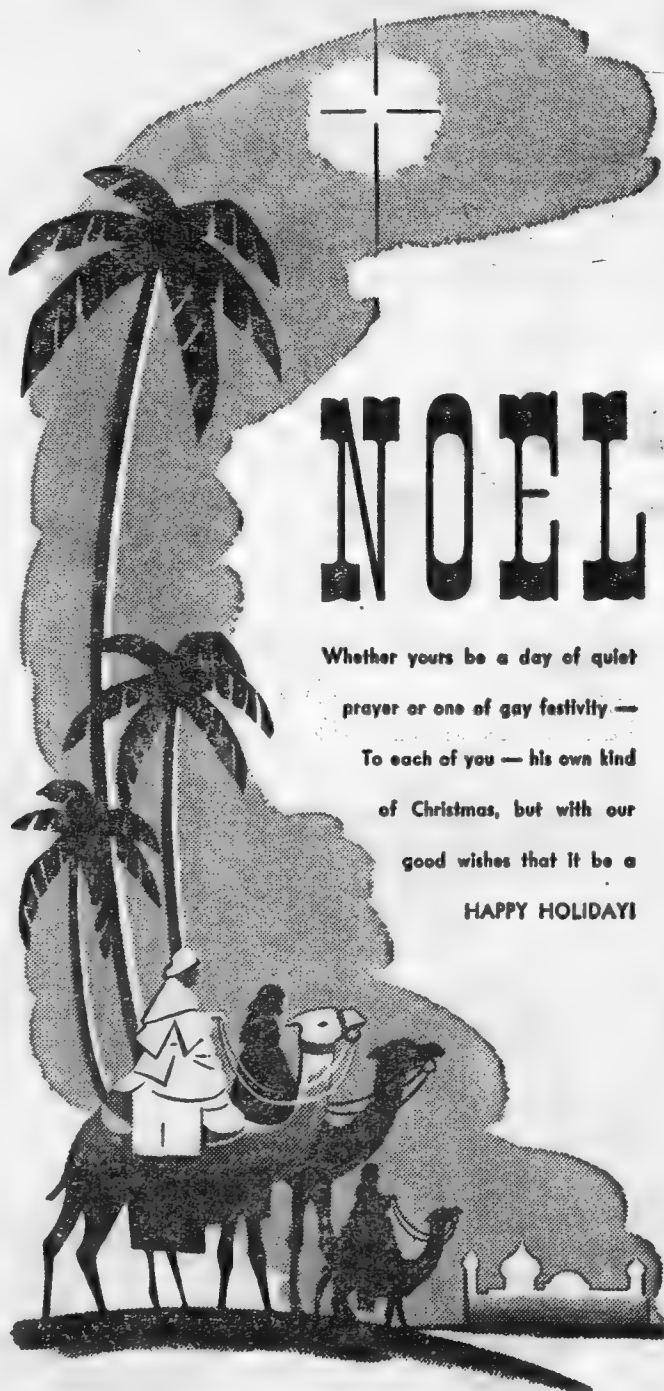
In an act of great discourtesy, Washington failed to consult Ottawa before this letter was disclosed. The letter was confidential, and since both countries were concerned, agreement to publish the document should have been reached both in Washington and Ottawa. Moreover, the letter caught the Canadian government completely by surprise, and this is always an embarrassment to governments, who after all are supposed to have all the answers.

The government didn't know who the "high official" was who had written to the FBI, and it was news to the Canadian government that it had ever contemplated recommending White to the post of director of the IMF. Such a suggestion could unfairly impugn the sagacity of the Canadian government. But Ottawa didn't exactly protest against publication of the letter. Instead the Canadian ambassador in Washington expressed surprise to the State Department that the letter should have been disclosed.

A Bad Month

All-in-all, it was not a good month for Canadian-American relations. Part of the trouble, of course, arises from the no-holds-barred tradition in American party politics. It's a rough game in Washington, and when one party is out to exploit another party's weaknesses, the niceties of diplomacy get short shrift. Canadian feelings didn't matter in connection with the White letter, nor did anyone else's feelings. What mattered was to embarrass the Truman administration, under whom White worked.

As for trade and the St. Lawrence Seaway, Washington's attitude seems to stem from the ignorance of so many Americans of how deeply concerned Canadians are over these two issues. It is doubtful that more than 10 per cent of the American people care very much about the trade question, and probably even less care, one way or another, about the St. Lawrence Seaway. Feeling that way, they can't see why Canadians should get so stirred up. In other words, what's an issue in Canada, isn't much of an issue in the U.S. From this fundamentally different approach comes much of the friction and misunderstanding between the two countries.



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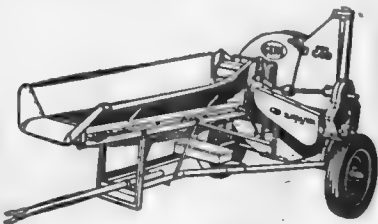
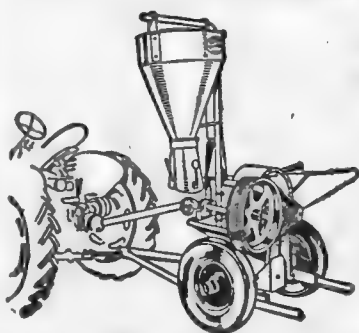
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The world's greatest question— Why be a Christian?

By FRANK S. MORLEY, Ph.D. (Edin.), B.D.

"WHAT shall I do then with Jesus?" asked Pilate at the trial. This is the most important question of the Bible. It is the most important question of life. Pilate made the answer of irresponsibility. He washed his hands of the whole affair. King Agrippa made the reply of postponed decision. "Almost," he said to Paul, "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian". This is the attitude of the agnostic: Christianity may or may not be true. Now, of course, Christianity can never be absolutely proved by logic. Christianity is only found true by commitment, by men of courage who try it, who adventure on the Christian way. Another attitude is that of the crowd who passed by the Cross, the response of the supreme immorality, indifference. Then the enemies of Jesus — for Jesus always will have enemies (I wonder about this when people say of a man, "Everybody liked him". Very few liked Jesus.) — the enemies of Jesus cried for His crucifixion.

Today we put Pilate's question another way. Everywhere, always people ask, "Why should I be a Christian?" The attitudes are still the same. There is the cowardly answer of irresponsibility, the lazy answer of postponed decision, the immoral answer of indifference, and the evil cry for the destination of Christianity.

I have often spoken of the responsibilities of Christianity: today I want to speak of its privileges. I have presented the challenge of Christianity; I want to speak of its peace. We have seen Christianity as carrying a cross; let us think of it as a strength that carries you. We have considered it as a duty; let us think of the Christian faith as power. Not weight but wings. Not a problem to solve, but an experience to enjoy. Not a faith which you support, but a faith which supports you.

Why should I be a Christian? Because Christianity provides the power and conduct for personality and character. There are doubtless great characters outside the Christian faith, but none of them is as great as he could be if he were a Christian.

Young men pay for personality-building courses. There is no course a young man can take in personality-building as valuable to him as worshipping God and following Christ. Would you ever have heard of Peter or Matthew or Paul if they had not been Christians? Paul was a poor little fellow; Luther was not as great a mind as Erasmus; there were greater philosophers than Augustine; there were more powerful men than Francis of Assisi; there were

more powerful men than Knox and Calvin. But Jesus made them! They owed any personality they had to Him. You gain assurance, power, poise, peace of mind, and — supremely — you can know that your life is worthily invested, if you are a Christian.

You should be a Christian because only in Christianity are sins forgiven. No other faith speaks of forgiveness of sins. Yet sin is at the basis of many an illness. Sin is destructive of mental health. Sin means not only transgression of the moral code, it also means "a falling short", a failure to measure up to what we ought to be. Christianity is a faith of redemption. There is no life that cannot be redeemed. No drug addict, no alcoholic, who cannot be restored to health. Jesus proclaimed His mission: "to preach the Gospel to the poor... to heal the broken-hearted; to preach deliverance to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind; to set at liberty them that are bruised." The Christian faith still does that.

So only in Christianity can peace be found. A world traveler said that he found peace to be a universal desire. But what convention of doctors, or what convention of scientists, can ever bring peace? Can any political party say, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me and ye shall find rest unto your souls"? Gosse wrote to Robert Ross

when Ross was in great trouble, "Turn for consolation to the infinite resources of literature". Now isn't that stupid? Suppose you came to me with your heart breaking and I told you go home and read a good book! Nature cannot bring peace when sorrow overwhelms you: nature can only make you feel more lonely and lost. Lord Avebury spoke of the power of science to "soothe, comfort and console the troubles and sorrows of life". How utterly fantastic!

Did a telephone or a radio or a motor car ever soothe a man's troubles? When the disciples were in the storm at night they felt lost. "If only the Lord were here!" Then Peter — Peter must have been looking for Him! — Peter cried, "It is the Lord!" So across the waters of life, through the storms of life, comes Jesus to us, He speaks the word of peace of my mind. Because only in my mind is peace possible. We speak of the world being mad. But education cannot be mad. Science cannot be mad. Only man's mind is capable of madness. Jesus will come to anyone who calls to Him. "My peace I give unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid". And His follower is confident, "My God shall supply all your need".

Moreover only Christianity can heal the wounds of the world. There are so many hatreds and deep evils, that only a genuine Christian faith can bring the healing of forgiveness, loving kindness and goodness. Molly Ellis was kidnapped by a savage tribe and the British were about to send a regiment of soldiers in a forlorn rescue attempt. Mrs. Starr said, "Don't send them! I'll bring her back".

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Mrs. Starr was the wife of a missionary who had been killed on the porch of his house by a man he had befriended. She had stayed among those people showing them the example of Christian love and forgiveness. Now she went back into the hills and brought out the captive girl unharmed. Sir John Maffey said that not all the army corps could have done what Mrs. Starr had done. And not all the army corps can bring peace to our blood-spattered, hate-bedecked world.

We should be a Christian because only Christianity has an answer to life's final defeat of death. Sooner or later we must all face the fact. Some people pretend not to care. Don't they care about their parents? Their children? Their wife or husband? O. Henry asked the nurse to bring him a candle. "Why do you want a candle?" she asked the dying man. "Because I'm afraid to go home in the dark." Christianity lifts that darkness. There is a light at the end. We used to sing a song with the line, "There'll be no dark valley when Jesus comes to take His loved ones home". What other faith can give you that? And you will come to it some day. You are getting older. At the end of the trail the Christian sees eternal life. Do you?

Christianity creates good homes. Where do you find the good homes outside the Christian faith? Rarely do you have a divorce among people who attend Church together. Our home life is a Christian conception, an ideal founded by Christians and only possible within the Christian faith. When I marry young people I always preface the service with the words, "Except the Lord build the house they labor in vain that build it". That is eternally true. Young people would be well advised to take those words seriously. If we want good homes, we must have Christianity.

Christianity is the basis of prosperity. In the Old Testament we are told, "The Lord thy God bringeth thee into a good land . . . Beware lest . . . thou say in thine heart, my power and the might of my hand hath gotten me this wealth." Jesus had the same teaching, "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you." When Israel served God, Israel was strong and prosperous. When Israel deserted God, Israel was poor and weak. The wicked may flourish for a limited time. But no nation can long endure except on the basis of righteousness. No business can thrive without foundations of truth. "Blessed (happy) is the nation God is the Lord." Christianity is supremely practical.

But there can be no ultimate argument for the Christian faith except that it is true. Here is the revelation of God in

Christ. "I am the way, the truth, and the life", said Jesus. "Art Thou He that should come?" asked John. "Go tell John . . ." To Pilate he replied, "To this end was I born and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth". In Christ God told men how to live. He showed men His own nature. "This is what God is like. This is what man should be like. Through My Son you can enter into the power and the glory of life."

All other religions are passing away. Buddhism has made no advance for five hundred years. Confucianism and Mo-

hamedanism have nothing to contribute to the world. Is there any world figure you would trust as a leader and redeemer?

We should be Christians because Christianity brings help for the need of the individual. We have atonement, forgiveness, redemption, recreation, peace. We have security. Christianity gives us physical and mental health. Faith creates personality. Through Christianity we reach life everlasting. Christianity makes good homes. Christianity turns work into vocation, gives it meaning. Christianity not only creates fellowship in the Church, but a fel-

lowship in society. It has been responsible for ten thousand social reforms. Christian citizenship has created a new ideal of citizenship. Christianity is the true revelation of God. Christianity is the hope of the world and there is no other hope.

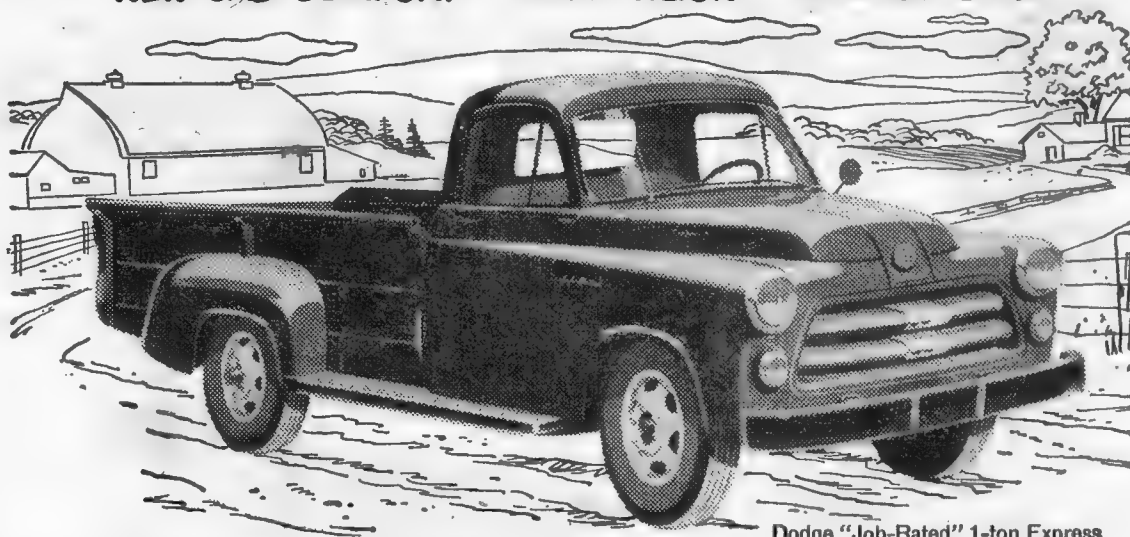
The highest price ever received for Canadian wheat was \$4.02 a bushel, basis seaboard, for a small lot sold by the Canadian Wheat Board in 1920.

The lowest farm price was registered December 16, 1932, when the street lists quoted 1 Northern at 19½ cents a bushel.

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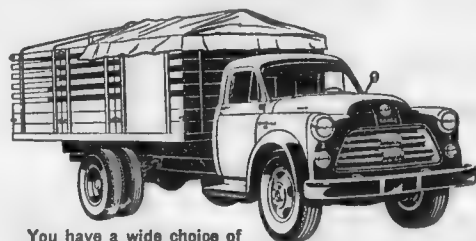
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chair-high, with full luxury-type seat cushions . . . cabs are heavily insulated against sound and vibration.

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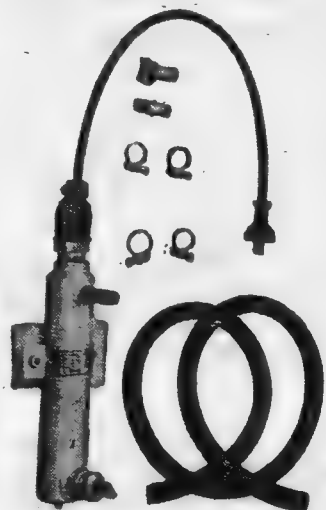
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Bird Heads, Flower Seeds and a Christmas Story about Santa

By KERRY WOOD

THIS is the time of year when we want to wish all friends the Season's Best. At our home, we've rarely bought mass-printed Christmas Cards to convey our greetings, chiefly because we like to express our feelings to friends in a much more personal way. And The Guid Wife reminded me this morning that the time had come to get busy on the pleasant task.

When we were first married, we prepared our Christmas message on the back of the picture mount. Another year, we glued bird pictures on plywood and used a fretsaw to cut them out and make keepsake souvenirs, while Marjory often used a pyrograph needle to burn on wood a nature scene to be mailed to friends at Yuletide.

Then the family came along and time was no longer a tolerant master, while we also had the good fortune to increase our number of friends so that it was impossible to make sketches or diamond willow novelties for the larger list. That's when we began visiting our local printer a month ahead of Christmas, trying to work out a card that carried the very personal message most of us want to send our special friends.

Naturally, we blundered a bit at times. Especially the year I had a fiction-character called Hobo Bill act as the family mouthpiece. Obviously, a grinning tramp-type was not the best ambassador of goodwill. But our friends did like the time we relayed the story of a little girl who got up early on Christmas morning, went downstairs to visit the sparkling, star-topped Tree, then sang softly and reverently: Happy Birthday, Dear Jesus, Happy Birthday to You!

Early Start

Sometimes we prepared for our Christmas Card back in August and September, gathering ripened flower seeds from the garden to put up in envelopes on which we'd written a cumbersome couplet:

Here's a bouquet of flowers;
For your garden, from ours.

At first we felt different about sending out seed packets of Scotch Marigolds, Cornflowers, Poppies, Mallow, and others, yet they had a kindly reception and several months later our friends reported with some delight on the blooms they'd grown from the card-package. Hence we still like that idea, and have

several jars of home-grown seeds waiting to be packaged and enclosed with our Christmas greetings. The thought wasn't original with us, as we heard about a wealthy man who sends each of his friends a hundred gladioli bulbs every Christmas. The idea lends itself to variation. For example, I like the thought of sending Tree-Seeds to young folk on farms, the gift accompanied by some description of planting methods and details about tree growth and care. Think of the later thrill of standing in the summery shade of trees grown from seeds received at Christmas back during childhood! And in this way, we might make up for the annual devastation of our near-home evergreens cut to provide us with Yuletide decorations.

I still haven't any idea as to what Christmas greeting we'll use for the 1953 season, but last year's message took the form of a children's story, as follows:

Having delivered parcels all over the world on Christmas Eve, Old Santa was very tired as he drove toward his North Pole home next morning. He was somewhat sad, too, knowing that once again there was no peace on earth, and that many children in the far and hungry places had received no presents from his pack the night before.

Suddenly the dear old spirit

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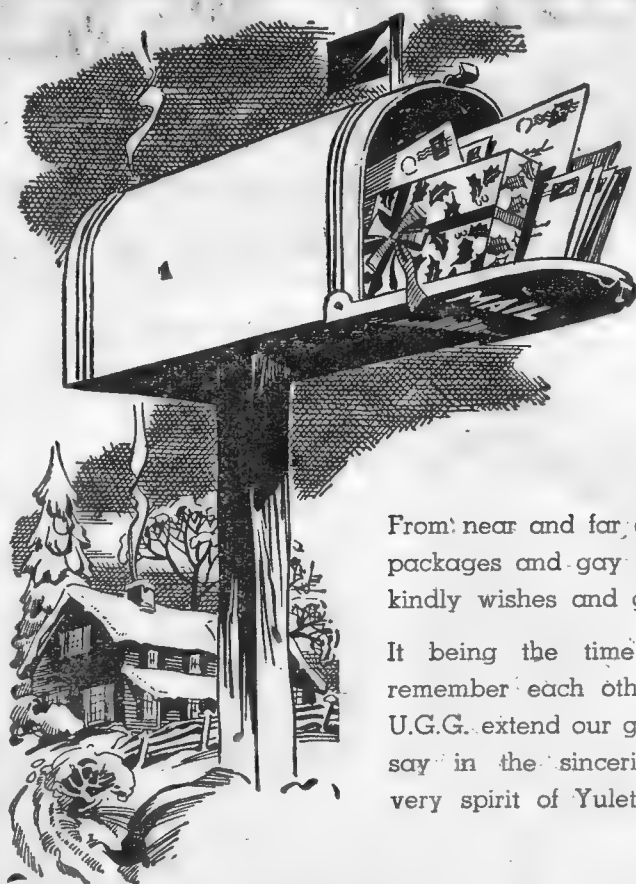
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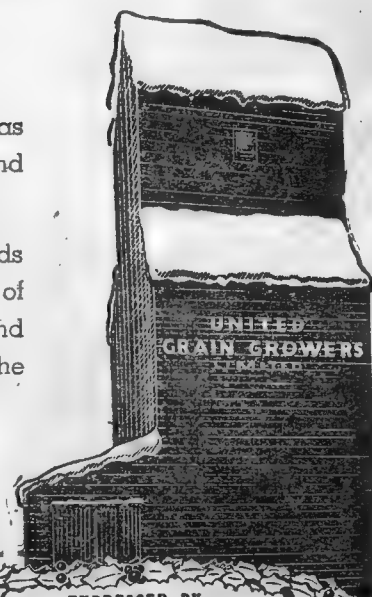


Season's
Greetings

From near and far come Christmas packages and gay cards to extend kindly wishes and good-will.

It being the time when friends remember each other, may we of U.G.G. extend our good wishes and say in the sincerity that is the very spirit of Yuletide . . .

**A Merry
Christmas To All**



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AND MONEY-MAKER FEED DEALER

called: "Whoa up, Dancer and Prancer — sounds like someone crying right here!" And he guided the reindeer downward in a spiralled loop to a weatherman's isolated cabin on the northern edge of the stunted trees. Santa peeped in, pleased to see everything all Christmasy with presents he'd hung on the Tree for wee Lucy the night before. Her Mom had made and dressed a lovely rag doll for her, while Dad had built a cradle for it and a set of tiny furniture. Lucy was hugging the doll as though she already loved it dearly, but she was crying her heart out.

Santa went right in, because he knew that no child should be crying on Christmas morning. Of course, only Lucy could see him — although Mom and Dad may have sensed that he was near.

"Aren't you pleased with your presents, my dear?" he asked. "So many, too."

"Thank you very much, Santa."

"Thank your parents, too, Lucy. But wait — don't cry again! Tell me what's wrong?"

Lucy's little face was all puckered up and tears welled from her blue eyes. "I'm crying because I haven't got a friend."

Santa understood at once.

"You're right," he nodded. "Everyone should have good friends near, on Christmas Day." He pulled on his tassled toque and patted her curly head. "I'll see what I can do, Little One."

He hurried out, leaving Mom and Dad to comfort her. Santa spoke to the tired reindeer and they nodded their antlers willing to make an extra trip if it would help. They whisked away.

"Oh, yes! They're lovely, and with a tinkling of silver bells, looping across the morning sky to the home of some Indians.

Johnny and Tula were smiling as they watched their daughter Nee-kun-oh, Little Song, playing with the buckskin-clad doll they'd made for her. She was strapping it on her back, just like Mama had once carried her.

And Nee-kun-oh said: "But I wish she were a real playmate."

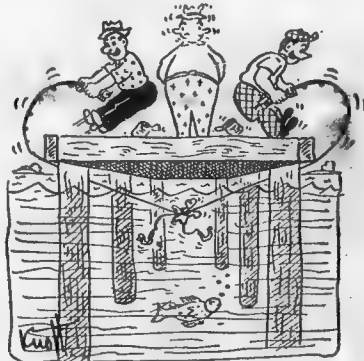
Santa chuckled to himself, sure that he'd come to the right place. He sprinkled a little Christmas Dust, a wonderfully powerful magic. The next thing the Indian family knew, they had on their warmest furs and were snow-shoeing along the trail toward the weatherman's home.

"Why, look who's here!" shouted Lucy's Dad, rushing out to shake hands with Johnny and Tula and kissing pretty Nee-kun-oh that day, while Mom and Dad were delighted to have visitors with whom to share their Christmas Dinner.

"That turned out nicely," smiled Old Santa, once again climbing into his sleigh and heading home. "Lucy had the right idea — everybody should have friends around on Christmas Day and throughout the year."

Who can question Santa's wisdom?

And so, Friends, we wish you all A Good Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year!



"Wow! I've hooked a big one!"

The Spirit of Christmas

Let us do all we can to cultivate the spirit of Christmas in our free land. Hang up the wreaths and ribbonds, trim the fireplace with holly, sing the English carols, or that fine old hymn of Luther's, or that lovely, reverent song that Father Josef Mohr of Salzburg wrote:

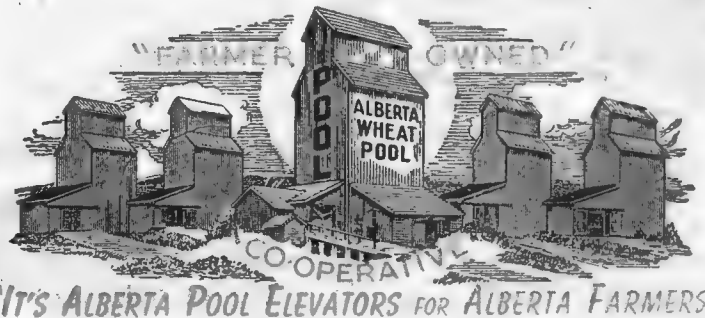
*"Stille Nacht, heilige nacht,
Alles schlaft, einsam wacht—,"*

The spirit of Christmas does not die. Not in any land. Not among the adherents of any creed. Not forever in the human heart. For Christmas is many things and has many names. For those of the Christian faith it marks the birth of One who said, "love your enemies and do good to them who despitefully use you." It has its reverential names in every language. Every Occidental nation has its holy legends, its Santa Claus, its beautiful old traditions.

But the spirit of Christmas is broader than any creed men can recite. Men gave gifts, relieved the poor, gathered their families and their friends around the comforting fires of countless hearths, at this season, since time out of mind.

When the spirit of Christmas is abroad the narrowed boundaries of religion and race fall away. We look deeply into the memory of the whole human race. What poetry it has made of winter cold and darkness, of snow with the shadows of bare trees traced across it, of stars never more beautiful than in December, of the blessings of fire and food and human affections, of the coming back of the sun after its southward journey!

"Glory to God in the highest!" sang the angels, according to St. Luke. "And on earth peace, good-will among men!" The emotion is ancient and profound. It is, in every land, in every language, in every creed, the Spirit of Christmas. The Spirit of Christmas is too ancient, too profound, too oft-recurring a part of human nature to be destroyed. It is an immortal part of man's inheritance.



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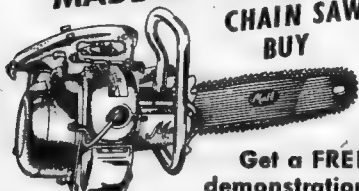
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Christmas at the Country Store

By HARRY J. BOYLE

I'M proud of our small town most of the time. They get some funny ideas at times like putting a spotlight up in front of the high school so the youngsters can't sit there on summer evenings, and then I'm provoked. Other times it's a progressive place and the merchants give good service.

During the week before Christmas, however, I long for the old days of Joe McReery's General Store and Ed. Simpson's blacksmith shop and Mrs. McAllister's bakery and sweet shop. They contributed to the slow and gentle passing of the days that were filled with anticipation and delight.

Now we have at least eight service stations that are all gleaming, white and red or blue and yellow and they look like hospital operating rooms. There was a heavy, horse musk smell in the smithy that mingled with the aroma of cut plug in foul pipes and the steaming heaviness from wet jackets drying by the smithy forge.

Mrs. McAllister was a picture lady with white hair and a plain, pale, face lined with delicate red and blue veins. Her eyes had a habit of sparking as she slipped a bullseye or a chocolate covered, candy broom to a boy waiting for grownups to do their shopping. The bakery had a brisk fragrance of cinnamon and spices and mouth-watering smell that was almost a feel of fresh baked bread.

We have department stores in town now. They have shiny, white shelves and brisk people in hospital coats. They even have loudspeakers grinding away at the overworked carols of the day. From the time you walk in the door there is a note of efficiency but there isn't much comfort. Joe McReery's old high-backed desk with the lift top where he kept his accounts is gone. They have a railed off space at the back of the store with two young stenographers that work as automatically as their machines and behind them is one those frozen glass spaces with "Private" written on it in a forbidding way. Even if the manager invited you in there, Christmas Cheer wouldn't taste like it did out behind the bags of sugar, flour and feed in the old shed beside the store.

No Friendliness

The stores don't smell friendly any more. Some of them even have air-conditioning units plucking away at the good smells. McReery's used to balance up the oily harness smell and temper it with the salt her-rings that Joe carried for the opening of Lent. You didn't have to worry about coming

from the stable to the store because there would always be an inch and a half of shavings on the floor. The stove contributed aroma when someone hitched the mica door open and used it as a crematorium for expectorations.

Christmas was the time of the open boxes of citron, lemon and orange peel and the boxes of Spanish raisins, currants, prunes, figs and dates. The over-all and smock counter would be cleared for Christmas goods. Some of the items would be left over from the year before. Just the same it was a practical display of socks, shirts and ties and brooches, aprons, sweaters and what he called "Toyletty waters and powders". Joe didn't stock toys. He left them for the mail-order catalogue.

The men clustered around the stove at the back of the store and the women, making their Christmas visit to the store purchased and gossiped. They had the staples to buy for Christmas dinners and candy for aiding and abetting Santa Claus.

The approach to the Christmas goods counter by lone men was always something worth watching. A man would examine a staple article on the hardware shelves behind the counter and then with a grasping motion grab an apron or a sweater and try and smuggle it up to the front of the store.

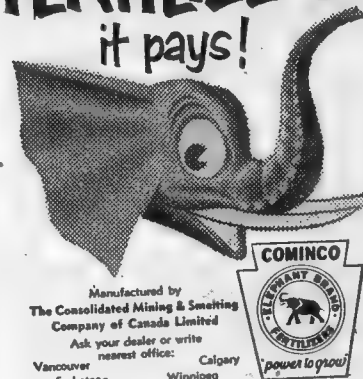
To listen to the gentle buzz of conversation was a delight for a child. It was just talk about Ed. McPherson's brown horse or how many people had been at the school concert or who took the school teacher home from the dance, but it was familiar and friendly.

Going out when the shopping was over you could eye the candy case with the supply of chocolate candies in all shapes and the jars filled with gum drops, licorice balls, horehound, sugar sticks with prize rings on them and the white and pink mints with the wise cracks printed on them. Grownups usually relented about buying candy on an occasion such as during the three or four days before Christmas.

Yes, and as you went down the street with the yellow lamps splotching in the early evening dusk, the snow making pencil lines in a dark blue sky and the sound of sleigh and cutter bells sound . . . "Jing-jong-jing . . . and jong-a-long . . . jing", you knew your town was a pretty wonderful place.

I miss it now in the days before Christmas.

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Low Supporter

To the Editor :

I find it quite silly that you should become so enthusiastic and exalted for the Liberal party, that you seem to think it is nearly a sin to protest against it, as if this party had been founded by Jesus Christ.

The people of the West have had their stomachs full of the old line parties, because they have failed terribly to give to the people the results they want. It is very unfortunate that you have to use slanders to revive your party, such as in your September editorial about Mr. Solon Low, national leader of Social Credit. I doubt very much that there were that many Sacred M.L.A.'s to help Mr. Low in the Peace River riding as you said. Mr. Low is very capable in politics and can win easily in any Alberta or B.C. riding. You don't seem to have very much regard for truth, such as when you said that Mr. Low was so fearful of defeat that he never left his riding to do any national campaigning. When it is a true fact that the latter has been very extremely busy campaigning from Ontario to B.C. since last fall. The Social Credit fund is very limited, unlike the Liberals who have all the money in the world for their propaganda machine. If you have to knock down the other parties' principle to sell your own, you must be terribly afraid what they have to sell will put the old line parties out of business.

M. R. Daoust.

Zenon Park, Sask.

Lost Supporter

To the Editor :

I fully agree with Mr. A. W. Johnston of Salmon Arm, B.C., your paper no longer enjoys the esteem it once held. We regret your change of attitude. It appears you have, as he has said, "sold out."

If it is imperative for your paper to join with the many others to campaign against the steady, but difficult progress of agriculture toward a higher standard of living, then the value of your paper to us has disappeared.

I can assure you we can do very well without it.

Harley Stamm.

Waseca, Sask.

Radio Did It

To the Editor:

It was with surprise I read today your editorial, "It wasn't

the Prairie Farmers that Voted Against the Liberals". Living in Saskatchewan, where we support our C.C.F. government, would like to say it was not the fact of the government's refusal to proceed with the Saskatchewan River Project that caused the people to vote C.C.F. instead of Liberal. We in other parts where this project does not touch us were disappointed for them, but I feel it was the broadcasting of the "Procedure of the House when in session" that gives us the full details of the sittings that has even drawn staunch Conservatives and rank Liberals an admiration of our Premier and his ministers.

When the Opposition called for his correspondence, could it be the Liberals did have something to keep dark!

M. T. Boide.

Vendura, Sask.

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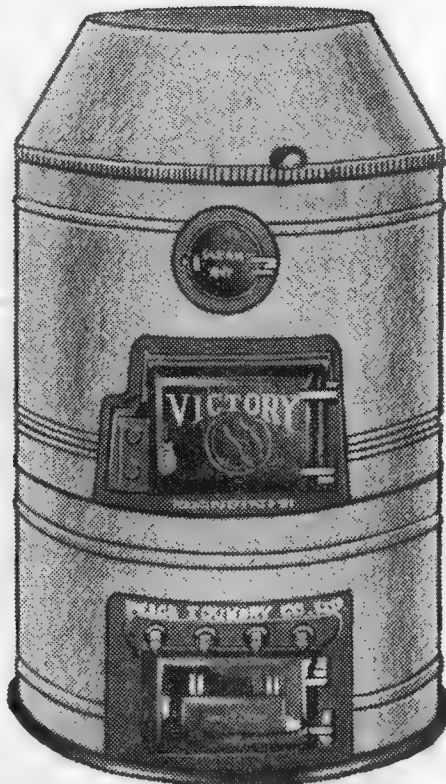
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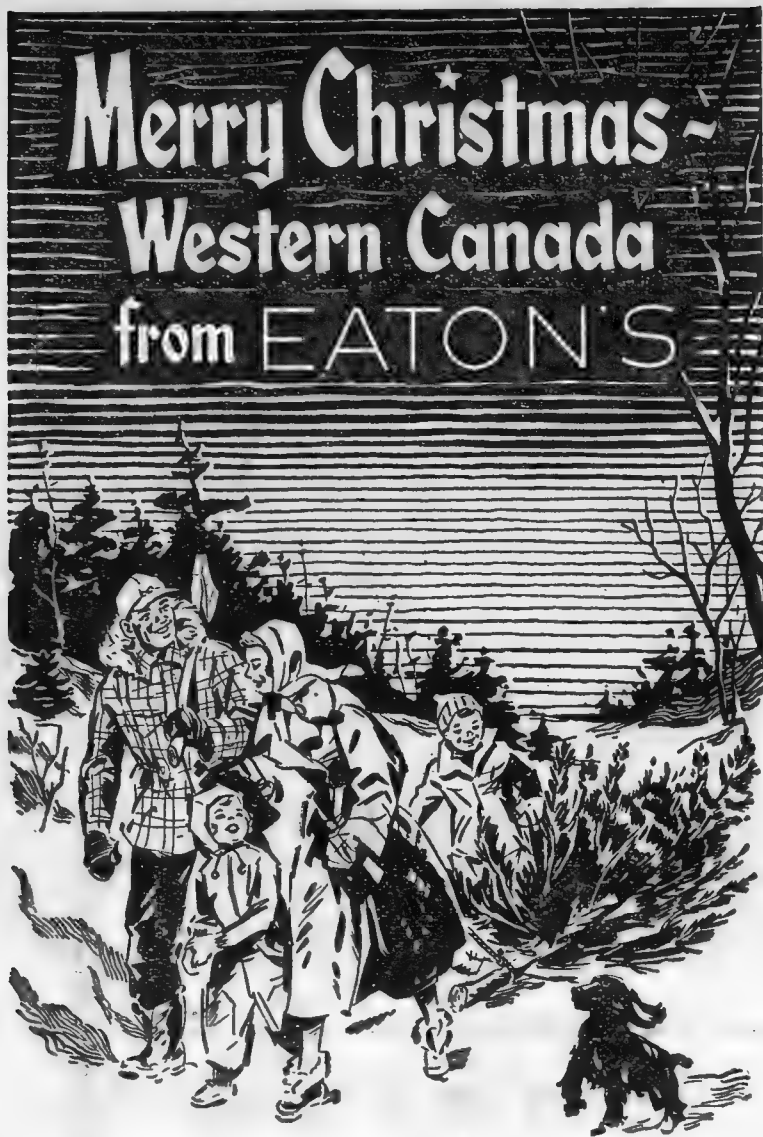
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Farm and Ranch Housewife

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE RURAL WOMEN OF WESTERN CANADA

Let's Ask Aunt Sal...

EVER since I have been conducting this question and answer department I have placed a certain notation at the bottom of the column, but I'm convinced that either many readers do not read it or else they have become so accustomed to seeing it there that they don't really notice it any more. Especially the part that tells you to confine your questions to one per letter... and the part that states you must enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope if you wish a private letter. Now some of you who have written in are going to be doomed to a disappointment. I'm sorry, but that is the way it will have to be.

your problems please only send in one (or two closely allied) questions and please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope and then you will get a reply within the following month. There, I've got that off my chest so on with this month's questions!

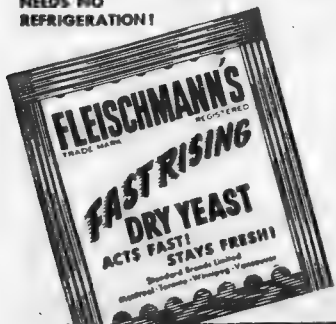
Q.: I have canned some cauliflower in tin cans by the pressure cooking method and now my friends tell me this will develop a fungus and become poisonous. Could you find out about this and advise me, please? — (Mrs. R. G., Avola, B.C.)

A.: This question has aroused more discussion among my acquaintances in my home city than any question sent in during the past month. I spent a whole morning on the telephone talking to home economists, retail and wholesale grocers, professional canners and so on. For you see canned cauliflower is never seen on the grocer's shelves and it seemed there must be a reason for this. Well, the question got tracked back to a testing lab. of a wholesale

3 Dessert Treats from One Basic Dough!

It's easy with wonderful active dry yeast!

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Say goodbye to humdrum meals! Turn one tender-rich sweet dough into these three yummy dessert treats! It takes no time at all—with the amazing Fleischmann's Fast Rising Dry Yeast! This lively, zesty yeast acts fast... gives perfect risings every time. If you bake at home, buy several packages now.

BASIC FRUIT DOUGH

Prepare
 1½ cups bleached or sulfured raisins, washed and dried
 ½ cup finely-cut candied citron
 ½ cup broken walnuts or pecans

Scald
 2 cups milk
 Remove from heat and cool to lukewarm. In the meantime, measure into a small bowl
 ½ cup lukewarm water
 2 teaspoons granulated sugar and stir until sugar is dissolved.
 Sprinkle with contents of
 2 envelopes Fleischmann's Fast Rising Dry Yeast
 Let stand 10 minutes, THEN stir well.
 Sift together three times
 4 cups once-sifted bread flour
 1 tablespoon salt
 4 teaspoons ground cinnamon
 ½ teaspoon grated nutmeg

¼ teaspoon ground cloves
 ¼ teaspoon ground mace

Cream in a large bowl
 ½ cup butter or margarine
 ½ cup lightly-packed brown sugar

Gradually beat in
 1 well-beaten egg

Stir in lukewarm milk, dissolved yeast and sifted dry ingredients; beat until smooth and elastic. Mix in prepared fruits and nuts.

Work in
 3½ cups (about) once-sifted bread flour

Turn out on lightly-floured board and knead dough lightly until smooth and elastic. Place in a greased bowl and grease top of dough. Cover and set dough in a warm place, free from draught, and let rise until doubled in bulk. Turn out dough on lightly-floured board and knead lightly until smooth. Divide into 3 equal portions and finish as follows:



1. Chop Suey Loaf
 Knead ¼ cup well-drained cut-up maraschino cherries into one portion of the dough. Shape into a loaf and fit into a greased bread pan about 4½ by 8½ inches. Grease top. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk. Bake in a moderate oven, 350°, about 40 minutes. Brush top of hot loaf with soft butter or margarine.

2. Butterscotch Fruit Buns
 Cream together ½ cup butter or margarine, ½ teaspoon grated orange rind, ¼ cup corn syrup and 1 cup lightly-packed brown sugar. Spread about a quarter of this mixture in a greased 9-inch square cake pan; sprinkle with ¼ cup pecan halves. Roll out one portion of dough on lightly-floured board into a 9-inch square. Spread

almost to the edges with remaining brown sugar mixture; roll up loosely, jelly-roll fashion, and cut into 9 slices. Place each piece, a cut side up, in prepared pan. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk. Bake in a moderate oven, 350°, about 30 minutes. Stand pan of buns on a cake cooler for 5 minutes before turning out.

3. Frosted Fruit Buns
 Cut one portion of dough into 18 equal-sized pieces. Shape each piece into a smooth round ball. Place, well apart, on a greased cookie sheet. Grease tops. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk. Bake in a moderate oven, 350°, about 15 minutes. Immediately after baking, spread buns with a frosting made by combining 1 cup once-sifted icing sugar, 4 teaspoons milk and a few drops almond extract.

grocer and here was the reply. "There are two reasons why cauliflower is never canned for sale: (1) There is so little demand for it. (2) There is an unpleasant odor released when you open the can and that gives one the erroneous idea that it is 'spoiled' and so inedible." If you have canned the cauliflower by correct methods and you cook it (as you do all canned vegetables) for 15 minutes after opening it, then it is perfectly all right.

Note:— I wrote Mrs. G. telling her to send me one of the cans and I would take it to the science lab. and have them test it to prove it was good (or bad), but to date I have not heard from her.

Q.: Do you happen to have the recipe Pumpnickle Rye Bread? — (Mrs. A. V. P., Rosemary, Alberta).

A.: I placed this question in my weekly column in Lethbridge Herald first to see if I could get a quicker reply and so pass on in this column. Well, I got a lot of remarks and vague suggestions. I had women originally from European countries stop me on the street and call me on the phone. Women with foreign cook books in their

possession also contacted me. But the sum and substance of the whole thing was that the recipe differed very little from an ordinary rye bread, but it was in the BAKING that it differed. This rye bread should be baked in an old-time Dutch oven and lacking this one bakes it in a loaf tin covered by another loaf tin to keep in the steam or places it in a tall tin (like a baking powder tin) and steams or bakes it. The real pumpnickle bread does not have a hard crust.

Questions That Have Cropped Up Again.

These have all been used before, but apparently there are new readers added to our large family group every month so you are still asking.

Q.: Have any of your readers a copy of the 5th edition of the U.F.W.A. cookbook that they would sell? — (Mrs. M. M., Timeu, Alberta.)

A.: How about it, readers? Write to me if you have.

A.: Where could I get a book on cake decorating? — Miss H. S., Bright Sand, Sask.)

A.: The only one I know of

costs twenty cents and is named Cake Decorating Book No. 1, and you send to Bulletin Service, Good Housekeeping, 57th St. at 8th Ave., New York, N.Y. 19, U.S.A.

Q.: How much saltpetre does one put in stove to clean chimney? (Believe it or not, eight of you asked this, this month.)

A.: Place ½ lb. saltpetre on the fire once per month and the fumes will clear the chimney of soot.

Q.: Why does my baked rice puddings and scalloped potatoes curdle? (Four of you asked this.)

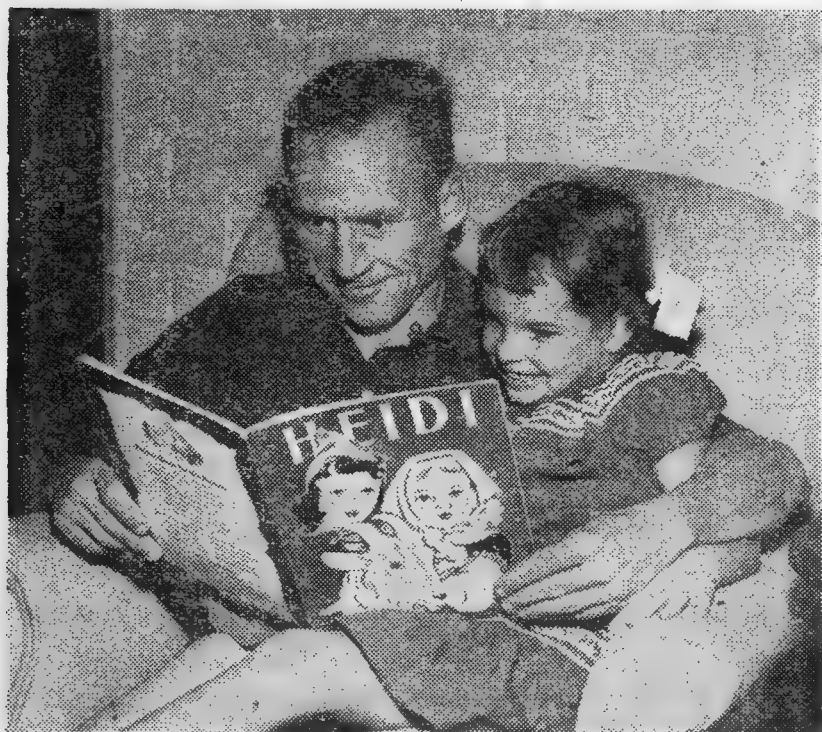
A.: Too hot a temperature will do this. Lower the heat and bake for a longer period of time.

Note.: All readers are invited to send in their home-making problems to Aunt Sal in care of the Farm and Ranch Review, no more than two questions to a letter and enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope for private replies.

Cheese is the perfect team-mate — team up cheese and eggs in omelets or souffles; cheese and meat in casseroles; cheese and macaroni or spaghetti; cheese and vegetables; cheese and fruit... it's an ideal match any way.

That story hour with Daddy

By LOUISE PRICE BELL



IN many homes, the story hour — so important to every child — is taken over by Mother. And even though she enjoys reading the same stories over and over again, there are many times when she is tired, or has important homemaking tasks to do. That is why, in the homes where Daddy is always ready and happy to read to his small son or daughter, it is not only a big help to mother, but more. It builds up a wonderful feeling of "palship" between parent and child, induces the smallsters to anticipate the quiet times with daddy as a change from

much more time with mother.

Daddy can do much toward creating childish interests in the right sort of stories, instead of the comics. Bible stories, beloved time-proven classics such as "Alice in Wonderland", and such favorites as "Heidi", "The Gingerbread Man", are far better reading than many children would voluntarily choose for themselves. So if you are a father, by all means take full advantage of every chance you have to read to your youngsters; you'll reap rich rewards in companionship, understanding, and pleasure.

NOW! PIPING HOT WATER—

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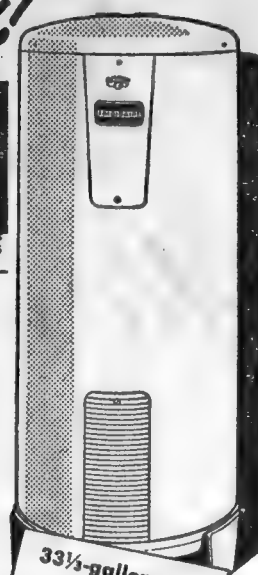


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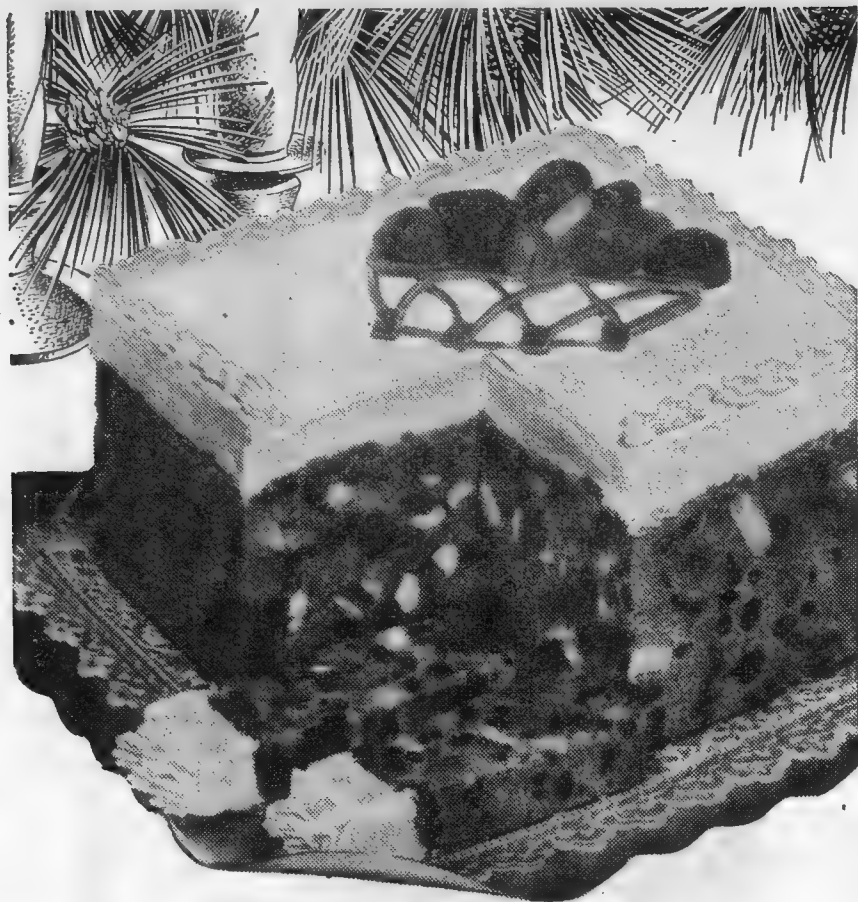
HAM GLAZE




¼ cup ROGERS' GOLDEN SYRUP;
 3 tablespoons water; ¼ cup vinegar;
 6 whole cloves; cinnamon stick; 1 tea-
 spoon grated orange rind.

Simmer first 5 ingredients 5 minutes,
 then add orange rind. Place ham rolls which have been stuffed
 with apples and bread crumbs in shallow baking dish; pour over
 ham glaze. Bake 30 minutes at 400°F, basting frequently.

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All year round, make your cakes tender and perfect-flavored with pure Magic Baking Powder. No waste of costly ingredients—and Magic costs less than 1¢ per average baking!



MAGIC CHRISTMAS CAKE

2 cups seedless raisins	1 cup cut-up pitted dates	1½ tps. ground cinnamon
1 cup currants	½ cup cut-up candied pineapple or other candied fruits	½ tsp. grated nutmeg
1½ cups separated seeded raisins	1 tbsp. finely-chopped candied ginger	½ tsp. ground ginger
1½ cups drained red maraschino or candied cherries (or a mixture of red cherries and green candied cherries)	3 cups sifted pastry flour or 2½ cups sifted hard-wheat flour	¼ tsp. ground mace
1 cup almonds	1½ tps. Magic Baking Powder	¼ tsp. ground cloves
1½ cups silvered or chopped mixed candied peels and citron	¾ tsp. salt	1 cup butter
		1¼ cups lightly-packed brown sugar
		6 eggs
		¼ cup molasses
		½ cup cold strong coffee



Wash and dry the seedless raisins and currants. Wash and dry the seeded raisins, if necessary, and cut into halves. Cut cherries into halves. Blanch the almonds and cut into halves. Prepare the dates, peels and citron, candied pineapple or other fruits, and ginger. Sift together 3 times, the flour, Magic Baking Powder, salt, cinnamon, nutmeg, ginger, mace and cloves; add prepared fruits and nuts, a few at a time, mixing until fruits are separated and coated with flour. Cream the butter; gradually blend in the sugar. Add unbeaten eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition; stir in molasses. Add flour mixture to creamed mixture alternately with coffee, combining thoroughly after each addition. Turn batter into a deep 8-inch square cake pan that has been lined with three layers of heavy paper and the top layer greased with butter; spread evenly. Bake in a slow oven 300°, about 2½ to 3 hours. Let cake stand in its pan on a cake cooler until cold. Store in a crock, or wrap in waxed paper and store in a tin. A few days before cake is to be cut, top with almond paste and ornamental icing; just before cutting, cake may be decorated attractively.

Aunt Sal suggests

ANOTHER year is nearing to a close and most of us are tempted to look back and check over what the year has really meant to us. In these days when every newspaper and radio newscast seems so chuck full of unpleasant items how we do like to cling to every happy event that crosses our path. Maybe these events are only small scale ones and never hit the headlines, but what of that? Small though they be, if they have brought happiness to someone they are truly big... in the best sense of the word.

I have a friend, a retired farm woman, who, in company with her good husband spends several months of each year travelling in sunnier climes and although I am not of an envious type there have been times when I know she is setting forth on another interesting trip that I think: "Oh, what would it be like to be able to see far-off places and people and things."

The other day this woman made a remark that set me thinking and made me more content with my quiet stay-at-home existence. She said: "The best remembrances I have from our trips are the many fine people I have met. There are so many wonderful folk in the world. One meets them wherever you go."

Oh, how true that is. But one doesn't have to make a long trip to find them either. You can just go across the street, or across the road or down the block or visit the hospitals or find them within the pages of a book. They are everywhere if we look for them. And we needn't tire ourselves out by a long journey to find them either.

There are some people who find travel relaxing but I don't happen to be one of them. To me the very nicest part of a journey is returning home again. But then I'm a dyed-in-the-wool home body and I might as well admit it. I'm never bored by any trip... definitely not... for it is always so enthralling for me to see people and wonder about them and talk to them and gather new ideas but I never relax until I unlock my front door again and

seek out my favorite chair and look around at the accumulation of my household "gods" and smile and say, "Oh, it's so good to be home again."

This past year I've had to do more than my usual share of relaxing for I've had a bit of ill health to overcome, but that had its bright side, too, for I could loll out in my lawn chair on the back lawn and read or sew or look at the flowers and just think. My next door neighbor, who is much more industrious than I, often called over the fence: "I don't know how you do it... I never get my work done so I can take it easy like you can." It tickled me to be able to call back: "It's doctor's orders." It is handy to have a doctor sometimes to blame our laziness onto, isn't it now?

For all you readers who are over forty (even though you don't admit it publicly) or to you others under forty who get tired too often, here is a trick that I've been trying out for several years with great success. All throughout my day... and I spend a long day awake... I arise before 7 a.m. and seldom retire before midnight. I never take a nap during the day and I never lie down but I sit down for about five minutes out of every single hour... I mean sit down in a comfy chair and lay my head back and really relax. Of course seeing much of my day is spent at my desk of course, I sit a lot, but that isn't resting in my straight chair. You don't need to feel guilty for taking these short periods of resting time for if you count them all up they won't total so very much, and yet each small rest will buoy you up and make you able to go at the particular task on hand with revived vim and vigor.

Thousands of you dear sympathetic readers have written me during this past year and every single one of you have been kind enough to state that I've helped you in some way: maybe it was a certain recipe, or handy hint or address or something you sought after. Now I'm telling you straight from the heart if everyone of you would adopt the little idea

The Dishpan Philosopher

THE Christmas cards from kith and kin and distant friends now trickle in, a stream that from now on will grow till Christmas-tide has reached full flow. I'm rather Scrooge-like when it comes to Christmas cards and all the sums on short-lived cheer so blithely spent. But long ere Christmas I relent, and thinking of the joy they bear from home to home I just forswear my prudence and proceed to send a card to every single friend. To tell the truth I'm apt to be a bit let-down when friends miss me. And now for all my reader friends this special wish my ditty ends.

A Happy, Happy Christmas Day! A Happy New Year—all the way! And should your luck at times wear thin may cheerfulness keep breaking in!

Country Diary

DECEMBER seizes the prairie with jaws of steel which clamp their icy bite on the landscape. The frozen fields lie still and numb, and across the spaces a coyote sends his quivering bark. How many miles has he ventured from his sheltered lair? An angry threat of blizzard hovers as north winds sneak around uneven drifts, and light recently-fallen snow clouds the frosty air. This is December as we have often known it — the angry invisible fist upraised ready to strike.

Then the other picture, with which we are also familiar — December, sparkling, clear with brilliant blue sky and a neat, wide, cleared road between the snow-banks. The snow-plow, like a plunging vessel, charges through deep waves of snow, truly the welcome-ship of the prairie, bringing convenience and comfort to the farmers and their families who may live ten miles and more from the necessities and amenities of town, an example of beneficent progress. All hail to the snow-plow and its crew!

The end of the month is crowned with supreme joy and happiness, the climax to many days of excitement and glad anticipation. December is the chosen month, honored by the sacred event of Christmas, the annual pause in our troubled life in a disordered world, in which to ponder the significance of the Feast of the Nativity, with its symbol of Christian belief and worship and universal beneficence.

Earthly traditions have also helped to make December a cherished month. Oldest of them is that of the Golden Bough, [mistletoe to most of us] which the ancient Druids cut from foster-parent tree in the yearly mysterious, solemn rite of propitiation to their gods. From those dark ages its religious observance has deteriorated to one much more frivolous known as "Under the Mistletoe", and observed any time during the Christmas holidays.

Plum-pudding, though not originating so far back in history, is associated with one Sir John Horner, who was entrusted

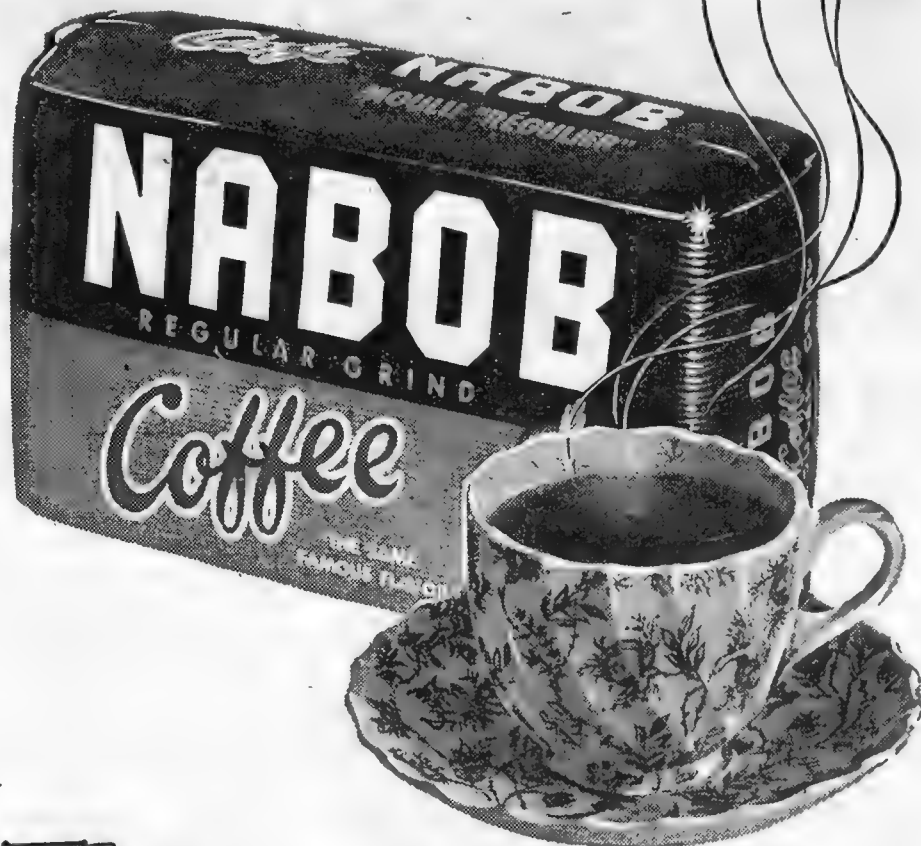
with a box of deeds of various lands from Thomas Cromwell to his master, Henry VIII. En route, he took out the deed to the Manor of Mells; as the rhyme says, "he pulled out a plum". A juicy plum indeed, for the Manor of Mells today belongs to a Horner.

Good King Wenceslas of carol fame, belongs to December, though actually not until the day after Christmas. He is said to have looked out from his castle window on the night of the Feast of St. Stephen which falls on December 26th. As King of Bohemia, he was constantly at war with the

Mongols under Genghis Khan, and he was probably looking over the "dark, crisp, even snow" to see if the crust was hard enough to support his horsemen. Perhaps he thought the man he saw moving furtively here and there on investigation with the help of his page, he discovered that it was a harmless but needy Bohemian peasant, to whose hut the King himself took gifts of food and wine. The carol sets forth the great meaning of Christmas — "Ye who now will bless the poor, shall himself find blessing," which is still and always will be a wonderful Christmas promise. There is no chilling winter in the soul of one who loves his fellow-men, and in his own personal way strives for "peace on earth".

You can't go
ALL-OUT
If you feel
ALL-IN

These days most people work under pressure, worry more, sleep less. This strain on body and brain makes physical fitness easier to lose—harder to regain. Today's tense living, lowered resistance, overwork, worry—any of these may affect normal kidney action. When kidneys get out of order, excess acids and wastes remain in the system. Then backache, disturbed rest, that "tired-out" heavy-headed feeling often follow. That's the time to take Dodd's Kidney Pills. Dodd's stimulate the kidneys to normal action. Then you feel better—sleep better—work better. Ask for Dodd's Kidney Pills at any drug counter.

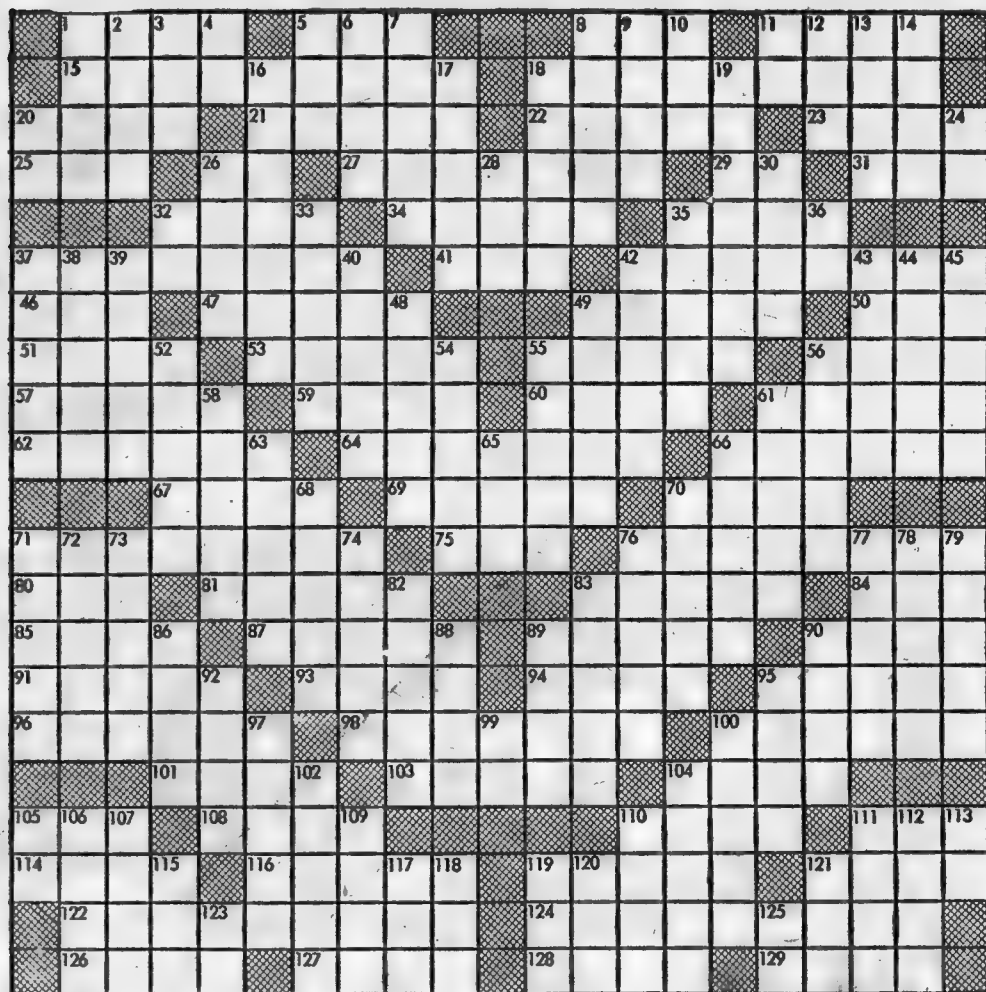


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OUR CROSSWORD PUZZLE



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SOLUTION NEXT MONTH

Calfhood vaccination pays two dividends

MONEY is usually invested to make money. One of the best investments any cattleman can make is to take measures to either eliminate or prevent the occurrence of disease losses in his herd. Building up a Bang's free herd pays two dividends. First, it increases the calf crop and reduces some of the sterility problems, both of which mean more profit, sometimes amounting to several hundreds or even thousands of dollars. Second, it protects the health of the cattleman and his family as Bang's Disease (Bovine Brucellosis) can be spread to humans in whom it causes Undulant Fever. All cows supplying milk to the house should be blood tested by a veterinarian.

Vaccination of all heifer calves yearly is the first step towards building up a Bang's resistant herd. As these heifers mature, older infected animals should be sold for slaughter. Dr. E. E. Ballantyne, Director of Veterinary Services, Alberta Department of Agriculture, reports that this program has been followed with success at the University of Alberta, and by ranchers and dairymen in Alberta in reducing the economic losses from the disease.

Vaccination is also recommended in herds not infected at the present time so that if infection is accidentally introduced there will not be a drastic and costly calf crop loss. Dr. Ballantyne urges cattlemen to raise their own herd replacements as far as possible to reduce the danger of bringing in infection. If additions have to be made they should be only calves which can be vaccinated or animals that were vaccinated as calves.

The 1953 calfhood vaccination program is in full swing, so now is an excellent time to start building up that Bang's free herd. Calves should be listed with the local veterinarian, District Agriculturist, Agricultural Services Board or Municipal Authorities now. Men in 12 municipalities, Brucellosis Restricted Areas, will be vaccinating every heifer calf this year. The number of calves vaccinated for Bang's increased from 6,700 in 1947 to 132,000 in 1952. Cattlemen are urged to do everything possible to prevent and eliminate Bang's Disease.

To keep frost from forming on windows this winter rub the inside of the panes with a solution of one ounce glycerine to one pint of rubbing alcohol.

Housewives in Holland keep their windows sparkling with a solution made by mixing one cup of cider vinegar and one and one-half gallons of hot water. Apply with a cellulose sponge.

Christmas ... Yesterday and Today

By ANNIE L. GAETZ

CHRISTMAS has always been a time of home coming, of family reunions. Well it might, for the word Christmas stands for love, and it is most fitting that the father and mother in the home should have the love and companionship of their children on this festive day.

Time was when Christmas Eve meant the harnessing of old Dobbin and Dolly for a trip to the station or the nearest town to bring back the home folks. Fifteen miles was quite a distance before the advent of cars, and the family rarely wondered far from the home nest. How we enjoyed that drive home through the gathering dusk! The hay in the bottom of the sleigh felt quite as comfortable to us as the most luxurious car cushions today. All along the way, twinkling lights brought back memories of our old friends and neighbors, until, most welcome of all, we spied the "lights of home".

As we turned in at the home gate, the trees that we remembered as beautiful living things, now looked gaunt and dreary. This was soon forgotten, however, for the kitchen door was thrown open, and, framed in the light from the kerosene lamp, mother and the younger children stood ready to welcome us, regardless of the piercing cold.

After greetings, the parcels were brought in from the sleigh—not very many of them, for Christmas was not a season of wholesale giving of gifts as it is today: but rather a season for the outpouring of love and happiness. There was sure to be a pair of carpet slippers for Dad, those received last Christmas have served their time; for mother, a white apron made by hand, with perhaps hand-made lace on the bottom. How mother's eyes would shine next morning as she lovingly smoothed out the folds and examined the scalloped edging made from spool thread. For small sister, there would be a

doll with china head, and how she would adore it; for brother a thin horse on wheels, and perhaps a striped candy cane for each.

What a joyous gathering next morning, as, with fingers stiff with cold, we opened our parcels by the flickering light of the oil lamp! There were no fancy strings or labels for the children to collect, and very few wrappings to clutter up the house. A modest Christmas tree with decorations of tinfoil and tissue paper stood in the corner, with a few evergreens adding to the cheerfulness of the room.

All day long, friends and neighbors dropped in to extend Christmas greetings and to chat awhile, sampling mother's Christmas cake and plum loaf. There were no friendly telephones to carry news or greetings in those days.

As the shades of evening gathered, Dobbin and Dolly were again hitched to the sleigh and with many good-byes and loving embraces we make the return trip to town. A feeling of loneliness crept over us as the sleigh bells began to jingle and the "lights of home" grew dim in the distance.

Such was the old-time Christmas. Today, brilliant lights shine from the windows, showing a scene of splendor in even modest homes. The tree, with its artificial decorations and lights, is a thing of dazzling beauty, and the house is decked out in gay attire. Homecomers are whisked along in high-powered cars, with no time for thoughts or reflections on the yesterdays, or the friends of the past. When the "lights of home" are seen glimmering in the distance, they are reached so quickly that the glamor is lost in reality.

Then, there are myriads of parcels to be carried in quantities of wrappings to be cleared

away next morning, the table spread with the finest lace cloth, gleaming with the endless amount of silver and china that good taste demands today, to say nothing of the variety of good, but indigestible things to eat. There is no time for quiet companionship, and the end of the day means a hectic departure, with no time for a backward glance.

Sometimes, as the years roll on, our thoughts turn back to the yesterdays, and to the Christmas seasons of the past. Regardless of all the beauty and splendor of our present celebrations, there is a yearning in the hearts of many for the simple Christmas joys and pleasures of the past, as we knew them, a longing for the old-fashioned "Lights of Home".



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Meditations at Twilight

By A. L. MARKS

"WHY did this have to happen," you exclaim, when something occurs to interfere with your plans, or your comfort or convenience.

May be you got a notice to move; or someone got sick or died; or douth or frost or flood ruined a good crop; or you or someone close to you is injured in an auto accident or otherwise.

Any number of things may happen to distract or trouble you.

Every one of them is a test of your character and make-up. Every one causes, or should cause you to think, and thinking has a very high rating, ordinarily.

What you will do when a crisis occurs will usually depend upon what your usual attitude toward life is.

If you have the mistaken view that makes, or lets, you think, that life is a Santa Claus always standing around to give you something you want, you will never know how to face a crisis of any sort.

If, on the other hand, you regard life rather as a cupboard, which holds for you very little except what you put into it, you will not permit yourself to be overwhelmingly any ordinary crisis; for you are the master of your destiny. You are a responsible person and will meet any ordinary crisis confidently, thoughtfully and adequately.

Crises are the testing point of character in every life. Acknowledge and treat them honestly at their real value and no crisis can defeat you.

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I saw a calf with a pail on her head. She ran around in a circle and ran into the fence. She fell down and then the pail came off.

Johnny Fast.
Vauxhall, Alta.

One day last spring Dad and I heard a terrific commotion in our sheep pasture. We hurried there and saw a coyote amongst the flock. Our shouts caused him to leave. He crossed a gorge, sat on his haunches and actually gave us a real mocking coyote laugh. Somehow he knew that we carried no weapons. Dad sent me to the granary for his .22, but before I got back the coyote must have found out what was in the offing, so hurried away.

Gordon Purdy.
Tawatinaw, Alta.

One day while exploring old hollow trees, I came across a nest of baby squirrels. I took one home with me. His eyes were closed and he seemed limp and weak. I thought for sure that he might die if taken away from the mother's care. When I got home, I thought of something that might work. Our cat had just had a kitten a few days earlier and I thought if I put the squirrel with her she might care for it.

At first the cat seemed nervous, but after awhile I saw the squirrel curling up by her warm fur and even feeding from her. The cat would lick the squirrel with purrs of contentment. The cat treated the squirrel, which many people thought should have been in her stomach, even better than she did her own kitten. In fact, when the squirrel grew to a frisky, young rascal she neglected the kitten so much by following it around that the kitten died.

She would sit on a bed staring in amazement at her young child's strange antics. It would climb up the wall like a fly with such speed that the cat would crouch low. The cat cared for it till it was full grown. It ran away leaving many memories of its strange adventures.

Gary Still.
Box 164D, R.R. 1, Winnipeg.

When we went to Turin I saw a pig with a pail on its head. It was running across the road. We had to stop because it was in our way. After we passed the pig it ran to its home.

Henry Fost.
Vauxhall, Alta.

We had a gosling given to us

in the spring and he is growing very well. He is a big goose now. He wanders all over the

yard and follows us wherever we go. The other day the black calf stood and looked at him, the goose stretched out his neck but the calf stood and looked. Then the goose ran at him, picked his nose, and the calf ran off. The goose will chase the cats, too, but the dog won't run. She snaps back.

Mary Harder.
Harmattan, Alta.

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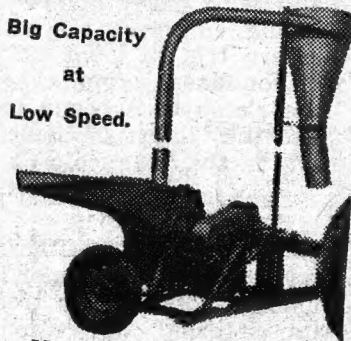
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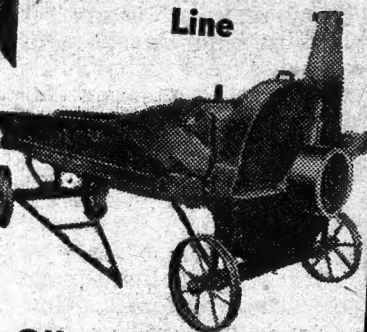
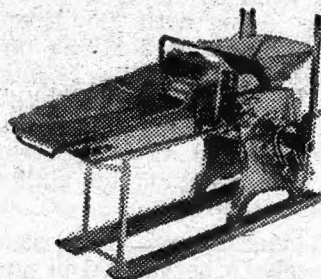
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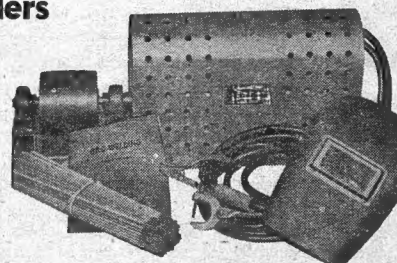
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To replace that water pail

By V. M. HIGGINS

A GREAT many farm housewives who had high hopes of running water installed in their kitchens this year to take the place of the good old water pail have found that even a bumper crop doesn't help much if you can't sell the grain, and have been obliged to postpone their plans once more. Some are fortunate enough to have a cistern pump, connected either to the cistern or a well, but in many cases the housewife must rely on waterpails for her kitchen supply, and carry water in a dipper from pail to sink.

One such young housewife of our acquaintance, casting a thoughtful eye over a discarded cream separator, used the milk supply tank to solve her water problem. She installed a sturdy shelf directly over the sink, and keeps it as her water container; the separator tank, being thick, er, keeps the water cooler, and

the handy tap, directly above the sink, greatly facilitates the washing of vegetables, the rinsing of dishes, etc., as well as presenting a much more attractive appearance, and holding a larger water supply.

It is nice to be able to fill your teakettle from a tap rather than a dipper, even if you don't possess the plumbing of your dreams, and these discarded tanks, still in excellent condition, are far from scarce since the newer electric machines have become more and more popular. They are made of excellent materials, and deserve a better fate than to rest on someone's garbage heap. The oval, enamelled ones are particularly suitable for this purpose, and look quite attractive while they help to tide us over until we are able to make those dreams come true.

Obsessed with production

COMMODITY prices are falling all over the world. In Canada and the United States, consumer debts are rising to a dangerous pinnacle and store inventories are at a peak. All this would suggest that a downtrend is ahead. It is to be hoped that this will not eventuate but the danger signals are flying.

During a depression farmers do not cut production regardless of the price level of their products. On the other hand, manufacturers cut production, close their plants or operate them on part time and struggle to keep up prices.

In 1935, Dr. Gardiner C. Means prepared a table for the United States congress which showed how industry evaded

the policy of free production and low prices during the great depression. Herewith is the table:

1919-1933	Drop in Prices %	Drop in Production %
Agricultural implements	6	80
Motor vehicles	16	80
Cement	18	65
Iron and steel products	20	83
Tires	33	70
Textiles	45	30
Food products	49	14
Leather	50	20
Petroleum	56	20
Agricultural commodities	63	6

In the first five articles of the list given it will be noticed that prices fell but little while production dropped off rapidly. In the second five items, and particularly in the production of farm commodities, the reverse occurred. Production fell very little while the drop in prices was very heavy.

Solution to last month's puzzle

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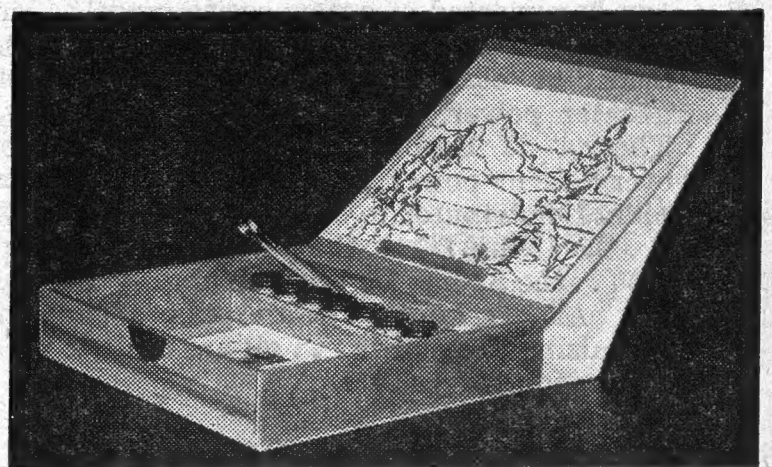
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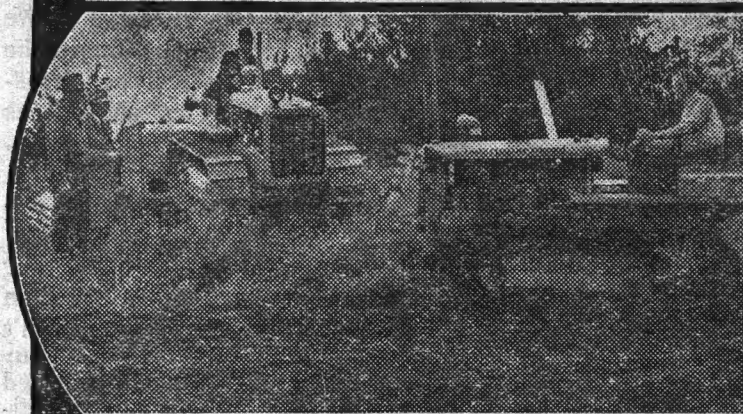
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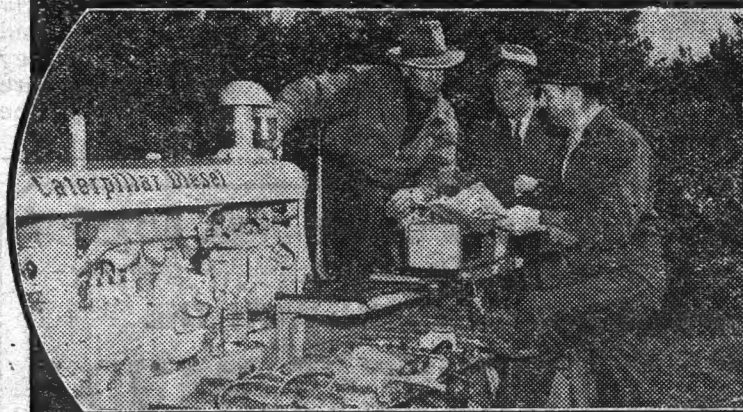
by A. T. Koch of Rosser, Manitoba.

Mr. Koch's "Caterpillar" Diesel D2 Tractor, purchased in 1938, worked 12,000 hours with never a let-down . . . cut his fuel costs by about 65% . . . and in all those fifteen profitable years never cost him more than \$35 a year for repairs and maintenance. Here is the story in Mr. Koch's own words: "Since buying this tractor fifteen years ago we have not spent over \$500 on replacements or repairs. When we traded it in it was still working beautifully and had the original fan belt. In 12,000 hours we did not lose one hour through the "Caterpillar's" inability to work. We calculate a saving on 65% in fuel costs as compared to a gasoline tractor. This machine has enabled us to get on the land earlier. Wet weather could not hold us up in the Spring, when we were able to disc twice, seed and harrow 40 acres a day."

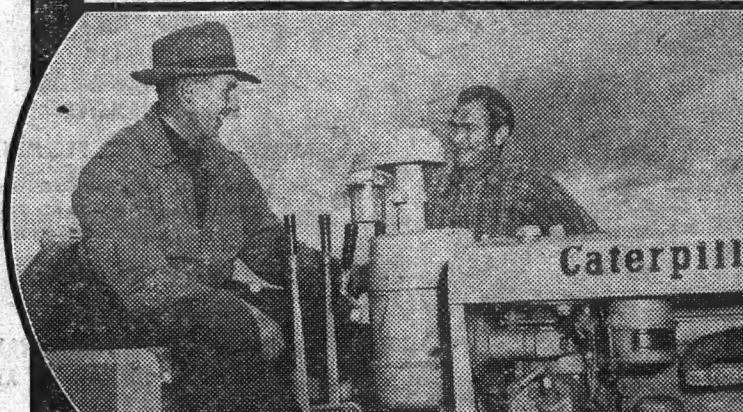
If a 1938 "Caterpillar" Diesel D2 Tractor is capable of that kind of performance, what can be expected of a new series model? Mr. Koch decided to find out for himself . . . so traded-in "old faithful" for a machine of even greater power, performance and economy! There's a "CAT"-built Diesel Tractor for every farm power need. Ask your "Caterpillar" distributor to show you the 32-h.p. D2 . . . the 43 h.p. D4 . . . the power-packed 66-h.p. D6 . . . the 81-h.p. D7 and the mighty 130-h.p. D8. All are built to "Caterpillar's" uncompromising standards . . . all are built to do a better job for you!



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